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HALF-YEARLY RETROSPECT OF DOMESTIC LITERATURE.

Non refert quam multos libros sed quam bonos habeas. SENECA.

THE plan of our half-yearly Retrospect has now continued so long, that the ceremony of an introduction may be waved. Learning and genius, it will be seen, defying or neglecting those events which destroy the peace of mankind, continue to exert their operations. Though

HISTORY

has of late years received but few accessions of primary importance; there are one or two works even in the present Retrospect, upon which we cannot but congratulate our readers. "*The Memoirs of John Lord de Joinville*," translated by Mr. JOHNS; in two volumes in quarto; deserve especial notice. The Sire de Joinville, it need hardly be said, was an eminent French statesman, who flourished about 1260, and was descended from one of the noblest and most ancient families in Champagne. He was seneschal, or high steward of Champagne, and one of the principal lords of the court of Louis the Ninth, whom he accompanied in all his expeditions except that of Tunis; and was greatly beloved and esteemed for his valour, his wit, and the frankness of his manners. That monarch placed so much confidence in him, that all matters of justice in the palace were referred to his decision; and his majesty undertook nothing of importance without consulting him. The familiarity with which Louis honoured him, gave him an opportunity of tracing the links of every event in his reign: and the candour and simplicity of the recital which he has left us of these events, afford strong proofs of his exactness. He does not extend his account of facts farther than what he personally witnessed. The Memoirs, which Joinville finished in 1309, were not published till after the death of Philip the Fair: and although they include a space but of six years, they give us sufficient information respecting the military system of those days, and the principles of administration adopted by St. Louis. They present to us a faithful picture of the customs and manners of the ancient French; charm us with that

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affecting simplicity of style which is one of their greatest merits; and display the mind of St. Louis with the most exact truth. The contents of the first volume, are as follow: 1. The Genealogy of the House of Joinville. 2. Dissertation on the Life of St. Louis written by the Lord de Joinville, by M. le Baron de la Bastie. 3. Additions to the same. 4. The History of St. Louis, by John Lord de Joinville. 5. Notes on the above History, by Charles du Fresne, sieur du Cange. The second volume is entirely filled with Du Cange's Dissertations on the History. The work is accompanied by a portrait of the Lord de Joinville, taken from his monument; a map of the Crusade of St. Louis in Egypt and in Palestine; a map of the Delta, explanatory of the expedition; a view of the town and castle of Joinville; an outline of St. Louis, from his monument; and a map of Syria and Palestine. The Lord de Joinville, died about 1318, at not much less than ninety years of age. The Memoirs, as they now stand, were the last production of the Hafod press; and were luckily expedited before the conflagration of Mr. Johnes's Library; the loss of which will be deplored by every lover of our ancient history. We understand Mr. Johnes is again collecting for another library; and trust that that spirit of research which prompted him to the publication of Froissart, will not end with the Memoirs of Joinville.

There is another work, which, though written in French, we shall not hesitate to mention here; it is "*The Campaigns of Marshal Schomberg in Portugal, from 1662 to 1668*," by GENERAL DUMOUREZ. In an advertisement prefixed, we are informed that the leading outline of the campaigns has been extracted from the Life of the Marshal, written in German, by Hagner: but a perusal of the work convinced us it was not to be considered as a mere translation. It contains many additional facts collected on the spot; and will be found interesting even to the military reader. The Duke of Schomberg was descended of a noble German family. He served first in the army of the United Provinces; but afterwards

wards retired into France. The chief obstacle to his promotion in that country, was his firm adherence to the protestant religion. In 1659, he offered his service to Charles the second, for his restoration to the throne of England: but was soon after sent by the court of France to Lisbon, to assist in the support of Portugal against the Spaniards. It may be sufficient to say, that, anterior to his arrival, the Portuguese were unacquainted with the art of regular encampments, and even when a ditch was to be thrown up, the earth was constantly placed on the wrong side. His rewards for the preservation of Portugal were, the empty title of Count de Mertola, and a pension of 314 florins from the privy purse, which sum was to be doubled at a peace. In 1663, on his return to France, he obtained the title of Duke, was intrusted with the direction of the army in Catalonia, and became a Marshal. In 1683, he was still serving at the head of the armies, when, in consequence of the edict of Nantz, he was obliged to emigrate from France. In 1686, he retired to Portugal, but being persecuted by the Inquisition, he accepted the command of the troops of the house of Brandenburg. Having traversed Holland, he had a conference with the Prince of Orange, (afterwards William III.), and concerted in conjunction with him the expedition which placed the latter on the throne. He afterwards accompanied the Prince of Orange to England; discomfited the measures of king James in Ireland; and at the age of 74 fought, in conjunction with his sovereign, the battle of the Boyne, dying, to use the words of Bishop Burnet, like Epaminondas, in the day of his triumph, and in the hour of victory. He had been previously created by king William, Baron Teyn, Earl of Brentford, Marquis of Harwich, and Duke of Schomberg; with a vote from the Commons of England, of 100,000*l.* for his services.

The "*Detailed Account of the Battle of Austerlitz*," by the Austrian Major-General STUTTERHEIM, will be read with interest and advantage. It has been translated by Major PINE COFFIN; and though it is impossible we should enter here into any full details of the military operations it relates to, it may not be improper to state the principal causes to which the loss of the battle is ascribed. These are, the want of correctness in the information possessed by the allies, as to the enemy's army; the bad plan of attack, supposing the enemy to have been en-

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In this class also, we place the "*Biographical History of England, from the Revolution to the End of George I.'s Reign*," in continuation of GRANGER. Many of the materials were collected by Mr. Granger himself, the rest have been supplied by the editor, the Rev. MARY NOBLE. In point of execution we think the three volumes here presented, by no means equal to the former work. The stores of anecdote, indeed, are more copious; but the characters are not drawn with Mr. Granger's felicity. As a specimen we shall quote the account of Catharine Queen-dowager of England.

"After Charles II's. death, the queen-dowager, never of much political consequence, retired to Somerset House, where she lived very privately, and with an economy she had never seen practised in England. The Revolution by no means pleased her majesty. She thought it a matter of religion, and she was every way attached to the Romish faith. William paid her all the attention due to her illustrious birth and rank. Mary was highly incensed that she had forbade a prayer to be used in her chapel, imploring success to William's arms in Ireland. She said to the king, in another letter, dated Whitehall, Sept 18th, 1690. 'I had a compliment last night from Q. Dowager, who came to town on Friday; she sent, I believe, with a better heart, because Limericke is not taken; for my part, I don't think of that or any thing else but you; God send you a good journey home, and make me thankful, as I ought, for all his mercies.' In all probability she wished to have ended her days in England, where she was better known, and had assimilated herself to the customs of the country by long residence; but the disagreeable-

ness of her situation made it necessary to return to Portugal; perhaps she had some intimation, that her jointure would be faithfully and punctually paid to her there. Leaving England on March 3, 1692, she passed through France and Spain in her way to Lisbon: she was received by the French and Spanish courts with every honour that could be paid her. Her majesty survived this reign, dying at Lisbon, on December 30, 1705; greatly courted and caressed by Pedro II. her brother, whom she left heir to the vast fortune she had saved; which the clergy had with an eager eye viewed as their own. Catharine displeased Charles II. by what he called prudery; but relaxing to the other extreme, in courting the favour of his mistresses, she sunk into contempt. She was too much a Portuguese to be popular in England; and when she returned, too much English to be happy in Portugal. A woman without vices, a queen without virtues."

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The publication of the first volume of "*The Chronicles of Holinshed*" bespeaks a feature in our Domestic Literature, on which we cannot but bestow commendation. It has long been a reproach to the literary character of this country, that its old historians have been fated to slumber in obscurity: confined either to manuscript or black letter. There now appears a chance that we shall one day see an uniform edition of our old chroniclers. To begin with Holinshed however is extraordinary; as both he and his condutor Harrison were for the greater part compilers. Holinshed himself, says Dr. Farmer in his Essay on the Learning of Shakespeare, has been usually represented by his biographers as a clergyman: and bishop Tanner goes still farther, in representing him not only as having been educated at Cambridge, but as having taken the degree of M.A. in 1544. The graduate, however, was one *Ottiwell* Holinshed, who was afterwards named by the founder one of the first fellows of Trinity college: and from the will of the historian, printed by Herne, it appears that even at the end of life he was only a steward, or a servant in some capacity

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found in the monastery of St. Stephen at Caen. The fifth contains a list of several eminent Normans who had resided in England in the reign of Edward the Confessor. The sixth and seventh articles contain lists of the military officers who accompanied the Conqueror. The eighth and ninth give the names of the Norman landholders in England. The tenth and last piece in this collection is an account of the pedigrees of the kings, dukes, earls, and other noble persons, mentioned in the large volume of Duchesne's *Scriptores Normannie*. The Baron's own Notes, which are in English, throw considerable light upon the text of the different tracts. In one of them, at p. 165, it seems to be doubted whether our kings anterior to the conquest had an oath administered to them at their coronations. We believe the exact form prescribed for it, even at an earlier period, will be found in Mr. Turner's History of the Anglo-Saxons.

Another work, and the last that we shall mention in this class, is Mr. CHALMERS'S "*Caledonia; or, an Account historical and topographic of North Britain; from the most ancient to the present Times; with a Dictionary of Places, chorographical and philological;*" of which the first volume only is before us. It consists of four books; comprising all that relates to Scottish history: "I have divided my work, (says Mr. Chalmers) without regarding fantastical conceits of fabulous epochs, into such periods, as were analogous to the genuine history of each successive people. *The Roman period*, extending from Agricola's arrival, in North Britain, A.D. 80 to the abdication of Roman authority, in A.D. 446, forms the first Book, from its priority in time, as well as precedence in importance. In discussing this interesting subject, I was not content with previous authorities. I engaged intelligent persons to survey Roman roads, to inspect Roman stations, and to ascertain doubtful points of Roman transactions. I have thus been enabled to correct the mistakes of former writers on those curious topics. Much perhaps cannot be added to what has been now ascertained, with respect to the engaging subject of the first book. Yet, since *Caledonia* was sent to the press, a discovery of some importance has been made: a very slight doubt remained, whether the Burghead of Moray had been a Roman station, as no Roman remains had there been found: but this doubt has been completely solved, by the

recent excavation, within its limits, of a Roman bath. The first chapter of the following work will be found to be as much the first chapter of the annals of England and of Ireland, as it is of Scotland. *The Pictish Period* naturally succeeds the former book, as it extends, from the abdication of the Romans in A.D. 446, to the overthrow of the Picts in A.D. 843. It will be found to comprehend interesting events: the affairs of the Picts; the fate of the Romanized Britons; the arrival of the Anglo-Saxons on the Tweed; the adventures of the Scandinavians in the Orkney and Western Isles; the colonization of Argyle, by the Scots, from Ireland. It is the business of the Pictish period, to trace the singular history of all those people, various as they were in their lineages, throughout the different events of their obscure warfare, and the successive turns of their frequent changes: add to those topics of peculiar interest the introduction of christianity, which, in every age, and in every country, has produced such memorable effects. *The Scottish period*, forming the third book, and extending from A.D. 843, to 1097, will be found to comprehend historic topics of equal importance: the union of the Picts and Scots into one kingdom; the amalgamation of the ancient Britons of Strathclyde with both; the colonization of Galloway by the Irish; the annexation of Lothian to the Scottish kingdom; the history, both civil and ecclesiastical, of all those people of various races, with notices of their antiquities, their languages, their learning, their laws; all these form historical matters of singular interest to rational curiosity, if they be investigated from facts, in contempt of fabulosity. The fourth book contains the *Scoto-Saxon period*, which extends from A.D. 1097 to 1306, and which details many notices of varied importance. At the first, and at the second of those epochs, momentous revolutions took place, though they have passed unnoticed by the Scottish historians; and were unknown to the historiographer royal. With this period began a new dynasty of kings, who introduced new people, new manners, new usages, and new establishments. In this period, the Saxon colonization of proper Scotland was begun. In this period, was the Scotian church reformed. In it was introduced the municipal law of North Britain, in the place of Celtic customs. In this period, originated her agriculture, her commerce and shipping, and fishery, her manufactures, and her coins. The beginning

beginning of this period formed the pivot, on which turned the Celtic government of ancient ages, and the Anglo-Norman polity of subsequent times: Yet, it is of a period so crowded with changes, and so varied with novelties, that the late historiographer royal says, 'The events which then happened, may be slightly touched, but merit no particular inquiry.' But, I have dwelt on those revolutions, and have marked every change. By a vast detail from *the Chartularies*, in respect to the civil history, from 1097 to 1306, to the ecclesiastical annals, to laws, to manners, and to domestic economy, I have tried to ascertain every interesting circumstance, and to render the national annals of that interesting period quite familiar to every reader: and, to give completeness to the whole, are added supplemental views of subsequent times, which have their details to instruct, and their curiosity to amuse." Such is the plan which Mr. Chalmers has both laid and endeavoured to execute, for reforming and ascertaining the ancient history of North Britain, which has been so long distorted by controversy, obscured by fable, and disregarded by fastidiousness. The work is illustrated with a Map of North Britain in the British and Roman times; a Plan and Sections of the British Fort on Barra Hill in Aberdeenshire; a Plan of the Roman Camp, called Norman-dikes; a Plan of the site of the Roman Tussis; a Plan of the site of Fortes, the Varis of the Romans; and a Plan and Section of the Roman Fort, near Clattering Brig, in Kincardineshire.

POLITICS, POLITICAL ECONOMY, &c.

Under this class it is with pleasure that we mention several tracts of great interest, as well in regard to the foreign as the domestic policy of Britain.

Previous to the abolition of the slave-trade, Mr. Wilberforce, in the shape of an Address to his Constituents, exhibited a full and faithful view of the whole arguments which bore upon the question. Taking it up in Africa; describing the evils which this nefarious traffic entailed upon the continent; and proving even from the evidence of the traders themselves, that its extinction was not only required by humanity and justice, but for the safety of our colonies, and the prosperity of our marine. The Bill for effecting this great object has since passed, and may be said to have wiped away one of the foulest stains that ever sullied the character of a generous people. We

hope and trust that the provisions of the statute will be enforced: and we heartily congratulate the man, whose labours for a series of years have been at last crowned by the abolition of a trade, as impolitic as it was wicked.

Another subject of Legislation, which has been of late canvassed with extraordinary zeal, has been the moral and political condition of the poor. The introduction into Parliament of Mr. Whitbread's Bill has been followed by the publication of different statements, observations and enquiries; of which it may, perhaps, be sufficient to do little more than enumerate the titles of the most important. The leading features of Mr. Whitbread's plan are, first, the establishment of parochial schools; secondly, the establishment of a poor assurance office; thirdly, the amendment of the laws of settlement; fourthly the relief of the burthen of such parishes as are already too severely oppressed by their poor; and fifthly, the encouragement of labouring men to bring up their families without charge to their respective parishes. These are followed by some regulations for the better government of workhouses. There are some parts of Mr. Whitbread's plan, however, to which we cannot give our approbation. It is occasionally more intricate than the nature of circumstances seems to require. Though at the same time we are ready to confess that the attainment of two of its objects, is likely to give a new character to the indigent classes of the community; these are, the proper instruction of youth, and the application of stimulants to industry at maturer periods of life.

"*The State of the Population, the Poor and Poor-Rates of every Parish within the Bills of Mortality in the Cities of London and Westminster, the Borough of Southwark, and the County of Middlesex: from Papers ordered to be laid before the House of Lords, April 5, 1805,*" affords some idea of the rapid and alarming increase of the poor in the county of Middlesex. The sum raised for the relief of paupers in 1776, appears to have been 189,975*l.*; in the medium years 1783-4, and 5, it was 210,910*l.*; and in 1803, amounted to 490,144*l.* The number of persons relieved from the poor-rates in 1801, were no less than 8 in the 100 of the resident population.

"*A short Inquiry into the Policy, Humanity, and past Effects of the Poor-Laws,*" by one of his Majesty's justices of the peace for three inland counties, may furnish

furnish some useful assistance to the political economist: but it should not have been called a *short Inquiry*.

As a Supplement to this work, Mr. WEYLAND, jun. its author, has published some "*Observations on Mr. Whitbread's Bill*;" in the conclusion of which he expresses a wish that it may be the first stone in the foundation of a strong and uniform edifice for the comfort of future generations.

Connected in some degree with the same object is Mr. COLQUHOUN'S "*Treatise on Indigence, exhibiting a general View of the National Resources for productive Labour; with Propositions for ameliorating the Condition of the Poor, and improving the Moral Habits, and increasing the Comforts of the labouring People, particularly the rising Generation*."—In contemplating the affairs of the poor, Mr. Colquhoun deems it necessary, in the first instance, to have a clear conception of the distinction between *indigence* and *poverty*. Suggestions are next offered for legislative intervention, and "a board of Pauper and general Police," "a Police Gazette," &c. proposed. Other labours of the same tendency have long entitled the author of this treatise to the approbation of the public.

"*The Substance of the Speech of the Right Honourable Lord HENRY PETTY, on a Motion to bring in a Bill to provide for the more effectual Examination of the Public Accounts, and for the better Discovery of Frauds*," forms a pamphlet well deserving of attention. It explains a great deal that ought to be corrected in the examining, passing, and auditing the public accounts.

"*The Substance of another Speech*," delivered by the same noble Lord in the committee of finance, presents a very flattering account of our revenues, concluding with this remark, that "it is consoling to reflect that, if we cannot subdue our present difficulties, we may at least survive them."

The Author of the "*Letter to Mr. Whitbread, on the Duty of Rescinding the Resolutions which preceded the Impeachment of Lord Melville*," seems perfectly master of his subject. He is an acute reasoner, and writes with considerable energy.

At the close of our last Retrospect of works on political economy, we did little more than barely notice "*The West Indian Common-place Book*," by SIR WILLIAM YOUNG. It will appear, says Sir

William, from official documents which I shall insert in this work, how largely the sugar-colonists contribute to the wealth and power of Great Britain; but they can only so far contribute, as for themselves they are rich and safe: they are tenants within the paramount manor of the state, and their rents will be considerable and punctual in the payment, according to their means; and those means will and must depend on the conduct of the authority to which they are in vassalage; on collections without exaction, on forbearance from officious interference with their labourers, and process of culture; on the insurance and security of their homesteads, on the keeping open and protecting their roads to market; on the liberal grant of repairs in occasional disaster and distress; and on all other kindnesses and regulations which the stewards of their Lord and Sovereign may devise for the benefit of his estate, and for the comforts of his people. Sir William Young has been a member of parliament for three and twenty years. At his entrance he was careful to observe the course and succession of parliamentary business, with the view, he says, of chalking out some line of industry rather than of talent, in which he might qualify himself to be humbly useful to his country. He accordingly selected the poor-laws, the British fisheries, and the commerce of the kingdom, as the leading subjects on which his attention was to be fixed, and his attendance given on every committee. From that time (June, 1784,) he kept a Common-place Book, in which he entered, under distinct heads, whatever occurred on these matters in debate, or could be collected from the statute-book or other reading; at the same time carefully arranging and preserving every document returned to parliament; and even copying some in the Journal office which were not printed by order of the house. In 1796, he was appointed chairman of a committee for enquiring into the best means "of accommodating the Thames and Port of London to the increased and increasing trade of the kingdom;" as such, holding an immediate correspondence with the custom-house in every quarter, and thus engaging a confidence on the part of his readers, in the foundation "of that earnest plea to the public consideration and regard, which, on the part of the British colonies," is here preferred. The work itself consists of sixteen chapters, of which the follow-

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ing are the subjects. 1. The African Slave Trade. 2. On the Cultivation, Produce, Progression, Improvement, and Decline of the several British Sugar-Colonies. 3. The general Produce and Exports from the British Sugar-Colonies. 4. The British Shipping employed in the West India Trade. 5. The Imports of Colonial Produce to Great Britain and Ireland. 6. Export Trade of Great Britain to its Sugar-Colonies. 7. On the Export Trade, as exclusive and secured by law. 8. On the Intercourse and trade of the British West Indies with America, and in particular with the British Provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, and Newfoundland. 9. On the Intercourse and Trade of the United States of America with the British West Indies. 10. On the Navigation Laws, and on the Shipping Interest of Great Britain, as affected by the Trade of America to the West Indies. 11. The British West Indies considered as a Depôt of Foreign Trade. 12. On the Navigation to and from Great Britain and the West Indies. 13. On the Military Defence of the West Indies. 14. On the Mortality of European Troops serving in the West Indies, and the means of Prevention or Remedy to be suggested. 15. Observations on limited Military Service, as applicable to Troops serving in the West Indies. 16. In times of War, the Transport Service an essential resource to the Shipping Interest of Great Britain. These are followed by an Appendix, exhibiting the comparative Returns of Ships built in the Ports of Great Britain at different Periods. Such are the contents of a work peculiarly interesting to commerce. The facts which it contains are not less important than various and authentic: and its inferences are alike those of candour and experience.

THEOLOGY, MORALS, AND ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

One of the most important publications to be noticed under this head, occurs in the "*Observations on the Necessity of introducing a sufficient Number of respectable Clergymen into our Colonies, in the West Indies; and the Expediency of establishing for that Purpose, by Subscription, a College in this Country, in which Persons may be fitly educated for the Performance of the Clerical Functions, in that Part of the British Empire.*"—The plan, it is very possible, may never be carried into execution; but the arguments by which it is supported, are plain and convincing. "The reason is (says

the Author) which seem to make it necessary to form a distinct establishment for the education of these persons, instead of engrafting a provision for that purpose upon some of the colleges at one of our Universities, do not entirely rest upon the necessity of a peculiar course of study and discipline, to qualify them for the service which they would be required to perform, but are in part founded on the danger of their becoming disinclined to enter upon that duty, if they shall have grown up in habits of intimacy with the young men destined for the several walks of life in this country; and of their either withdrawing entirely from the ministry, for which they were educated, or setting out upon it with the feelings of men going into exile, rather than with the zeal and devotion of persons selected for the execution of most important and arduous functions; whereas, if a number intended for the same line of life were to go through a course of education together, with few opportunities of forming connections out of their own circle; they would cheerfully exchange their college for the West Indies, having before them the prospect of rejoining there the friends and companions of their youth."

Dr. MANT'S "*Lectures, on the Occurrences of the Passion Week,*" though not expressly written for the press, form a very useful publication. In the preface we are told, they were prepared by the author with a more immediate regard to his parishioners: they are plain, pious, and unaffected.

But there is another work which we feel it our duty to recommend more strongly. It is by Mr. SAVILE, of Edinburgh, entitled "*Dissertations on the Existence, Attributes, Providence, and Moral Government of God; and on the Duty, Character, Security, and Final Happiness of his Righteous Subjects.*"—Mr. Savile presents it to the world with diffidence, though it is the result of some of his maturest thoughts, and has repeatedly received a careful revisal. The subjects discussed are among the most important and interesting that can engage the attention of the human mind.

"*The Discursory Considerations,*" by a COUNTRY CLERGYMAN, "*on the supposed Evidence of the early Fathers, that St. Matthew's Gospel was first written,*" would fain give the Gospel of St. Luke priority; because St. Matthew has omitted the important fact of the ascension.

Connected also with this class, is the

second volume of Mr. BURDER'S "*Oriental Customs, containing an Illustration of the sacred Scriptures, by an explanatory Application of the Customs and Manners of the Eastern Nations, and especially of the Jews, therein alluded to. Collected from the most celebrated Travellers, and the most eminent Critics.*" The first volume of this useful work made its appearance in 1802, and the second is not entitled to a smaller share of praise. As specimens we have selected three or four of the most interesting articles.

No. 675, Exod. xii. 34.—"*And the people took their dough before it was leavened, their kneading-troughs being bound up in their clothes upon their shoulders.*" The vessels which the Arabs make use of for kneading the unleavened cakes which they prepare, are only small wooden bowls. (Shaw's Travels, p. 231.) In these they afterwards serve up their provisions when cooked. It is not certain that these wooden bowls were the kneading-troughs of the Israelites; but it is incontestable that they must have been comparatively small and light, to be so easily carried away.

No. 1153. Zephani. ii. 6.—"*And the sea-coast shall be dwellings and cottages for shepherds, and folds for flocks.*" Archbishop Newcome has remarked, that many manuscripts and three editions have a single letter in one of these words more than appears in the common editions; which, instead of *cherith*, gives us a word which signifies *caves*; and he thus renders the words: *and the sea-coast shall be sheep-cotes; caves for shepherds, and folds for flocks.* This translation will appear perfectly correct, if it be considered that the mountains bordering on the Syrian coast, are remarkable for the number of caves in them. In the history of the Crusades, it is particularly mentioned that a number of persons retired with their wives and children, their flocks and herds, into subterraneous caves, to find shelter from the enemy. (*Gesta Dei per Francos*, p. 781.) Harmer, vol. iii. p. 60.

No. 1154. Zephani. ii. 7.—"*In the houses of Ashkelon shall they lie down in the evening.*" An extract from Dr. Chandler's Travels, (page 115,) furnishes a very lively comment on these words. "Our horses were disposed among the walls and rubbish of Ephesus, with their saddles on, and a mat was spread for us on the ground. We sat here in the open air while supper was preparing, when suddenly fires began to

blaze up among the bushes, and we saw the villagers collected about them in savage groups, or passing to and fro with lighted brands for torches. The flames, with the stare and the pale moon, afforded us a dim prospect of ruin and desolation. A shrill owl, called Cucuvaia from its note, with a night-hawk flitted near us; and a jackall cried mournfully, as if forsaken by his companions on the mountain."

No. 1155. Zephani. ii. 14.—"*Flocks shall lie down in the midst of her, all the beasts of the nations; both the cormorant and the bittern shall lodge in the upper lintels thereof.*" Knobs or chapters, marg. Chardin, (tom. iii. p. 108.) describing the magnificent pillars that he found at Persepolis, tells us that the storks (birds respected by the Persians,) make their nests on the top of these columns with great boldness, and are in no danger of being dispossessed."

In the elucidation of scriptural passages, Mr. Burder has not only examined the observations and researches of modern travellers, but consulted the ablest commentators on the sacred writings, and obtained some illustrations even from the Greek and Roman classics. It is perhaps enough to say that the mode of illustration in this work is one of the most rational to which we can possibly have recourse.

Mr. NISBETT'S "*Attempt to display the original Evidences of Christianity in their genuine Simplicity,*" will be found both interesting and instructive. It is not inferior to any of his former publications. He is of opinion that St. Paul's Man of Sin was intended to apply to the Jews, and not to the church of Rome. "*The Rise, Fall, and future Restoration of the Jews,* accompanied by Six Sermons, addressed to the Seed of Abraham, by several Evangelical Ministers, and an elaborate Discourse by Dr. HUNTER, on the Fullness of the Gentiles," forms a repository of information relating to the Jews, well worthy of the reader's notice. The first compilation it contains, which occupies seventy-two out of two hundred and fifty-eight pages, is divided into six chapters: The first giving a general history of the people: The second affording a particular account of their state at the birth of Jesus Christ: The third, an interesting narrative of their sufferings, and the revolutions they have met with in England: The fourth, detailing a variety of facts and anecdotes relative to their present condition in

France and Germany; the fifth exhibiting a statement of the sentiments and sects of modern Jews; and the sixth shewing the views of eminent divines, respecting their future conversion to Christ, and restoration to their own land. The six Sermons by *Evangelical Ministers* which follow, add more to the bulk than the value of the work. Dr. Hunter's Discourse at the end is worth them all.

Of another work which has been lately published, of a different kind, it may be quite sufficient to record the title. "*Letters to the Editor of the Christian Observer, in Reply to their Observations on a Pamphlet entitled, 'A few plain Answers to the Question, Why do you receive the Testimony of Baron Swedenborg?'*" by the Rev. J. CLOWES.

Among the SERMONS, we cannot fail to give a conspicuous place to those of Mr. VAN MILDERT, containing "*An Historical View of the Rise and Progress of Infidelity, with a Refutation of its Principles and Reasonings.*" They were preached, at the Lecture founded by the Hon. Mr. Boyle, in the parish church of St. Mary-le-Bow; and are calculated not only to interest but to instruct. The arguments are selected with judgment; and the language they are clothed in is strong and unaffected.

Beside these, we have scarcely any Sermons, in an aggregate form, to mention; *detached Sermons*, however, have been produced by the press in great abundance.

"*The Duty of Stedfastness in Church Communion,*" has been ably treated by Mr. PEARSON.

Dr. MALTBY'S "*Sermon*" before the University of Cambridge, on the importance of improving the early part of life, deserves attention beyond the limits of the audience to which it was addressed.

Nor would we bestow a smaller share of praise on Dr. GASKIN'S Sermon, intitled, "*The English Liturgy, a Form of sound Words.*"

In Dr. KNOX'S "*Sermon,*" however, preached at the Opening of the Philanthropic Society, we confess ourselves to have been disappointed.

Of the remainder of those which have fallen into our hands, we have found little either to praise or censure. A few, are only to be commended for their good intentions.

CLASSICAL LITERATURE.

Among the more valuable works in this section of our Retrospect, we cannot fail to place the new edition of "*Gesner's*" MONTHLY MAG. No. 159.

Quintilian," published under the immediate direction of the University of Oxford. The text has been accurately collated and cleansed of the numerous typographical errors which marked the edition of 1738. The editor, we understand, was the Rev. J. Carpenter, of Hertford College.

Nor is less praise due to the publication of the "*Catalogue of the Manuscripts, and Books with Manuscript Notes, in the D'Orville Collection,*" purchased by the University about three years ago.

"*The Paraphrase of an anonymous Greek Writer, (hitherto published under the name of Andronicus Rhodius), on the Nicomachean Ethics of Aristotle,*" has been translated from the Greek, by Mr. BRIDGEMAN. In regard to the Paraphrase itself, though we allow it in many instances to possess a great share of merit, we certainly agree in the observation of Salmasius, that it differs from Aristotle in many particulars. As a fair specimen we shall transcribe the whole of the eighth chapter of the fifth book.

"In what manner a man may act unjustly, and still not be unjust."

"We have discoursed universally, therefore, concerning justice and injustice; also concerning the just and the unjust, and defined the nature of each. But since there are certain unjust actions, in which, though the agent acts unjustly, nevertheless he is not unjust, let us now investigate what those actions are. In the first place, however, we will show that certain things may be done unjustly, and still not be unjust; as, for instance, a man may steal, or commit adultery, and yet be neither a thief nor an adulterer. For if any one should steal a sword from a maniac, lest he should wound himself, such a one steals indeed, but nevertheless is not a thief. So also if any one commits adultery for the purpose of enriching himself, he commits the crime indeed, but still is not an adulterer, but a lover of riches. If also a physician should deceive a sick person, in order to preserve him, he deceives, yet he is not a deceiver. It is manifest, therefore, that certain things may be done unjustly, and yet not be unjust according to that particular injustice, the work of which he accomplishes. But let us consider in a general way what these unjust actions are. They are such then as a person does unjustly, not for the sake of the end which is adapted to that particular injustice, of which the action is performed, but for the sake of some other end, whether

ther it be good or base; and though, according to this, he acts unjustly, nevertheless he is not unjust. For a physician may deceive without being a deceiver, since it is not his end to deceive, but to preserve his patient. In like manner also a person stealing a sword from a maniac, does not seek to receive *the more* for himself, and to gain secretly from his neighbour, as a thief would do; but the end he has in view is the preservation of the maniac. Every action, however, receives its form and definition from the end, and through this also its name; since a name is a concise definition. For we do not say that a general, who frequently prepares helepolides, or other warlike engines, for the purpose of besieging a town, is an architect or a carpenter: he performs the works indeed of the architect and the carpenter, and is said to build; but because he has not the end of an architect in view, but that of a general, he is not an architect, but a general, and is called by that name. Thus also he who violates his neighbour's bed, but does not deliberately intend to do so through intemperance, but through a love of money, is not an adulterer, but a lover of riches. It is possible, therefore, for a man to act unjustly, and yet not to be unjust according to that particular injustice of which he does the deed; but he is either not at all unjust in the same manner as the physician above-mentioned, or he acts unjustly according to a different species of injustice, in the same manner as the adulterer: and how this happens has been already explained. It is also possible, in another manner, for a man to act unjustly; as for instance, a man in the night not knowing a thief, and killing some other person, acts unjustly indeed, but nevertheless is not unjust."

With respect to the translation, it appears to have been faithfully executed; and retains much of the manner as well as the matter of the original. Our *Retrospect* is, from its nature, confined; or we should have gladly given a more extended account of the Paraphrase on the Nicomachean Ethics.

The value of Dr. Adam's work on Roman Antiquities has been so long acknowledged, that we feel a pleasure in announcing a companion to it in Mr. Robinson's "*Archæologia Græca*." In the Preface, Mr. Robinson confesses himself very much indebted to the well known work of Archbishop Potter, which he has, indeed, made the basis of his own;

divesting it of the historical and mythological digressions, and of the long quotations from the classics, with which it is encumbered. He has also made great use of the Travels of Anacharsis, by the Abbé Barthelemy, of the *Antiquitates Græcorum Sacræ* of Lakemacher, and of the *Antiquitates Græcæ* of Lambertus Bos, enriched with the notes of Frederic Geisner; and he has occasionally consulted the Dissertations on the Greeks, by De Pauw. The second book, however, on the Civil Government of Sparta, appears to have been chiefly compiled from Cragius's work *de Republica Lacedæmoniorum*. At first, Mr. Robinson says, it was his intention to have extended his enquiries to the manners and customs of the several states of Greece, and especially to those of Athens, Sparta, Thebes, Rhodes, and Macedon. But the difficulty of obtaining the necessary materials, obliged him to relinquish a part of his design, and to limit himself chiefly to Athens and Sparta. There is, however, perhaps, no great reason for regretting this abandonment of a part of his original plan. The Athenians and Lacedæmonians were, properly speaking, the only original nations in Greece; and all the others could only be considered as shades, partaking, more or less of these two principal colours. The inhabitants of Crete, Rhodes, Megaris, Messenia, and some parts of Peloponnesus, imitated the customs of Sparta; while the other Greeks of Europe adopted in general the modes and civil institutions of Athens, unless where local circumstances occasioned some deviation, too trifling to excite a general interest. An account of the manners and customs of Sparta is certainly necessary in a work of this nature; and it affords matter of surprise, that Potter, Bos, and other writers who have treated on Grecian Antiquities, should have scarcely noticed those of so considerable and peculiar a state as Lacedæmon. As preliminary subjects, we have a brief History of the Grecian States; followed by Biographical Sketches of the principal Greek Authors, with short comments on their writings. The work itself is divided into five books; the first relating to the Civil Government of the Athenians; the second to the Civil Government of the Spartans; the third book treats generally of the Religion of the Greeks; the fourth concerns their Military affairs; and the fifth their private Life. As a specimen, we shall quote the twenty-second chapter of the third

third book, relating to the Pythian Games.

"The Pythian games were celebrated in honor of Apollo, near Delphi (*Pind. Pyth. Od. VI.*), and are supposed by some to have been instituted by Amphictyon, the son of Deucalion, or by the council of the Amphictyons. Some refer the institution of them to Agamemnon (*Phavorin.*): and some to Diomedes (*Pausan. Corinth.*). But the most common opinion is, that Apollo himself was the author of them, after he had overcome the python, which was a serpent (*Ovid. Met. I.* 445); and hence these games were sometimes called *πανήγυρις ὄφρα* (*Clem. Alex.*). At first they were celebrated once every ninth year (*Plut. Quæst. Græc.*), and hence that period was denominated *ἐννεατερίς*; but, afterwards, they were observed every fifth year, which period was called *πεντατερίς*.

"The rewards were certain apples consecrated to Apollo (*Lucian. de Gym.*), and garlands of laurel (*Pausan. Phocic.; Ælian, Var. Hist. III., 1; Pind. Pyth. Od. VIII., v.* 28). At the first institution of these games, the victors were crowned with garlands of palm (*Plut. Sympos. VIII., probl. 4*), or of beech (*Ovid. Met. I., v.* 449). Some say, that, in the first Pythian solemnity, the gods contended in horse-races, running, throwing the quoit, boxing, wrestling, &c. and that Apollo honoured them with crowns of laurel; but others affirm (*Strab. lib. XI.; Pausan. Phocic.*), that at first there was only a musical contention (*κιθαρωδία*), in which he who best sung the praises of Apollo, obtained the prize, which was either gold or silver, but which was afterwards changed into a garland. If the prize was money, the games were called *ἀγῶνες ἀργυρεῖται*; if only a garland, *ἀγῶνες στεφανίται, φυλλίται, &c.*

"There was also another song called *Ποθικός νόμος*, to which a dance was performed. It consisted of these five parts, in which the contest of Apollo and Python was represented (*Strab. lib. IX.; Poll. IV. 10, seq. 84*): 1. *Ἀνάκρεσις*, which contained the preparation to battle; 2. *Ἀμπειρα*, the first essays towards it; 3. *Κατακλεισμός*, the action itself, and the god's exhortation to himself to be courageous; 4. *Ἰαμβοὶ καὶ δακτυλοὶ*, the insulting sarcasms of Apollo over the vanquished Python; 5. *Συριγμός* or *Σύριγγις*, the hiss of the serpent as he died. Some divide this song into the six parts following: 1. *Πεῖρα*, the preparation; 2.

Ἰαμβος, in which Apollo dared Python to engage by invectives; 3. *Δάκτυλος*, which was sung in honour of Bacchus; 4. *Κρητικὸς*, in honour of Jupiter; 5. *Μητρῶν*, in honour of Mother Earth; 6. *Συριγμός*, the hissing of the serpent. But by others, it is thus described: 1. *Πεῖρα*, the preparation; 2. *Κατακλεισμός*, the challenge; 3. *Ἰαμβικός*, the fight. 4. *Σπονδιῶς*, the celebration of victory, from *σπενδειν*, to offer a libation; 5. *Κατακρίσεις*, the dancing of Apollo after the victory (*Poll. Onom. lib. IV., cap. 10*).

"In the third year of the forty-eighth Olympiad, flutes (*αὐλοδία*), which had not till that time been used in this solemnity, were introduced by the Amphictyons, who were presidents of these games (*Strab. lib. IX.; Pausan. Phoc.; Plut. Sympos. V., probl. 2*); but, because they appeared more proper for funereal songs, they were soon laid aside. The Amphictyons also added all the gymnastical exercises used in the Olympian games (*Pausan. Phocic.; Schol. Pind.*); and they enacted a law, that none but boys should contend in running. Afterwards, horse and chariot races (*Pausan. ibid.; Schol. Pind.*), and contests in poetry and the fine arts (*Plut. Sympos. V. probl. 2; Plin. lib. VII., cap. 37*) were introduced. The laurel, with which the victors were crowned, was brought from Thessaly (*Lucan, VI.* 409).

"These games were celebrated on the sixth (*Plut. Sympos. VIII., 1; Quæst. Græc.*), or, as others say, on the seventh day (*Schol. Pind.*) of the Delphic month *Βύσιος*, which corresponds with the Athenian *Θαργηλίων*; but whether they continued more days than one, is uncertain."

Such is Mr. Robinson's *Archæologia Græca*. It is accompanied by a map of ancient Greece: an Index of remarkable things: and an Index of Greek words and phrases.

The last work we have to notice in this class, is formed by the smaller works of Ruhnkenius, which have been collected by Mr. KIDD, and deserve attention, both from the scholar and the critic.

ANTIQUITIES.

The seventh and eighth Portions of Mr. BRITTON'S "*Architectural Antiquities*," beside the concluding part of Malmsbury, contain a *Sequel to the Essay on Round Churches*, in the History of that of Little Mapleston, in Essex: followed by an *Essay on the History and Description of Colchester Castle*.

"The church of Mapleston, (Mr.

Britton says, is singular in shape; and constituting one of the round class is extremely interesting, as displaying a different and later style of architecture than either of the structures previously described. With a circular portion at the west, and a semicircular east end, the plan of the building is unique; and therefore deserving particular illustration. Its exterior character, internal peculiarity, ground-plan, and entrance-doorway, are correctly displayed in three plates; judging by the peculiarity of its members, which furnish the only clue in the absence of document, Mr. Britton refers its erection to some period between or during the reigns of King John and Henry the Third. The whole length of the church, internally, is sixty feet. The circular area twenty-six feet in diameter.

"Colchester Castle stands upon an elevated spot of ground, near the north-east corner of the station supposed by most writers to have been the ancient Camalodunum of the Romans: and was formerly encompassed with a foss and vallum. The remains consist mostly of the shell, or exterior walls of what appears to have been the Keep. The walls are extremely thick, and of vast solidity. They are constructed with a mixture of clay-stone, flint, Roman tiles, &c. the whole combined and strongly held together, by a proper quantity of lime-cement poured into all the interstices. Yet strange as it may seem, after an account of such materials, the structure itself is not deemed of a remoter date than the Norman conquest. Caen stones and Kentish rag are so much mixed with the masonry, that an earlier period cannot be assigned it.

The doorway of the church of "South Okendon in Essex," is another subject illustrated: it is a delicate specimen of what is called the Anglo-Norman style.

These complete the first volume of Mr. Britton's work: which, it appears, will now be confined to four volumes. Hitherto we have had no specimens of the earlier Saxon style: but the subjects announced convince us that neither pains nor expence will be spared to make the Architectural Antiquities not only a beautiful and an unique work, but a complete one. We shall continue to report its progress.

DR. COUPER'S "*Notes and Observations on the early Part of the History of the British Isles*," relate chiefly to the etymologies of the names of nations and tribes; and he labours with no little success, through sixty-six pages, to prove that they

were all equally of Celtic extraction. The usual derivation of Scotti from Scythia, a wanderer from Scythia, he deems absurd; deriving it rather from the Celtic Scaoth, a swarm, or multitude. An anecdote toward the close tends very much to derogate from the high antiquity attributed to the Erse poems by Macpherson.

BIOGRAPHY.

LORD ORFORD'S "*Catalogue of the Royal and Noble Authors of England, Scotland, and Ireland*," first appeared nearly half a century ago. The extended edition of it, however, by Mr. PARK, accompanied by a series of portraits, is almost a new work. It is in five volumes octavo. Lord Orford's plan of giving a catalogue only of titled authors has been enlarged upon, and short specimens of their performances added, somewhat after the manner of Cibber's *Lives of the Poets*. Among the new Authors in the Royal List, we find *Richard II., Henry VI., Anne Boleyn, the Princess Elizabeth Queen of Bohemia, Charles II. and Frederick Prince of Wales*, father to his present Majesty. Lord Orford's appendix to the posthumous edition of his Noble Authors could not be transferred to the present, on account of purchased copyright; so that with that edition Mr. Park's but little interferes, except in the correction of inadvertences, or the insertion of casual omissions. In regard to the sum of his labours, Mr. Park observes, that what personal health has permitted, and family cares have allowed; what a love of literature partly incited to attempt, and what plodding perseverance has enabled him to accomplish, is submitted with deference to the award of candour; not without some apprehension of being blamed both for deficiencies and redundancies, for having done too little or too much, according to individual bias for particular characters. Mr. Park commences his annotations with the preface to Mr. Walpole's first edition, and continues them throughout the whole of the work.

The new edition of Mr. CUMBERLAND'S "*Memoirs*," in two volumes octavo, is accompanied by a Supplement; dated Feb. 19th, 1806. Among other articles of entertainment which occur in its contents, we have a few comments on the Reviewers. "The friends (says Mr. Cumberland), who knew with what hesitation I yielded to their advice, and undertook this task, can witness that I did not expect to make my own immediate *Memoirs*

Memoirs entertaining to the public; yet every reviewer, who has condescended to notice them, (those of Edinburgh excepted) have had the charity to make me think they had read me with complacency. But they were my countrymen; they could feel for my motives, they could allow for my difficulties; they had too much manliness of nature to endeavour at depressing me, and forbore for a time to be critics for the gratification of exhibiting themselves in the more amiable character of gentlemen.

"I understand that these acrimonious Northern Britons are young men; I rejoice to hear it, not only for the honour of old age, but in the hope that they will live long enough to discover the error of their ambition, the misapplication of their talents, and that the combination they have formed to mortify their contemporaries, is in fact a conspiracy to undo themselves." In these additions, however, we do not find many anecdotes of primary importance. A copious Index which now accompanies the work will be found extremely useful.

In the "*Public Characters*" of 1807, we announce the ninth volume of a work which has experienced a degree of circulation almost unprecedented. To give a complete analysis of its contents, here, would be impossible, as it would occasion us to enter too much into detail. It may be sufficient to enumerate the more remarkable persons whose characters are drawn. The first and most prominent is Mr. Whitbread: the next is Mr. Hobhouse. Among those who follow: Lord Redesdale, Lord Somerville; Mr. Mitford, the historian of Greece; the Earl of Elgin, Mr. Sergeant Hill, and Sir William Scott, may be mentioned as the principal.

Connected also with Biography is, "*The Child's Welfare*," by Mr. HOLLOWAY, of Reading. It forms the substance of a Funeral Sermon, and is stated to contain the *Experience* of Miss Louisa Fuller; who died at the age of little more than *eleven years*. The preacher's own experience we should suppose might have supplied him with more useful materials for an exhortation to his hearers than any thing, however, altered, in the correspondence of a child. At any rate to have preached such a sermon was enough.

Mr. BARROW, in the "*Account*," which he has given "*of the public Life of the Earl of Macartney*," appears rigidly to have confined himself to those general events and transactions of the

times in which the subject of his narrative bore a conspicuous part. A fairer portrait of an honest statesman will hardly any where be found. The *Life* itself does not occupy the whole even of the first volume. George Macartney, it appears, was born the 14th of May 1737, at the family mansion of Lissanoure. At the age of thirteen, he was admitted a fellow-commoner of Trinity College, Dublin, where he proceeded M.A. 1759. From Dublin he came to London, and was entered of the Society of the Middle Temple, where he formed an intimacy with several characters who were rising into eminence: but not intending to study the law with a view to practice in that profession, he only remained there till he had completed his arrangements for making the tour of Europe. In the course of his Travels he became acquainted with the late Lord Holland, of whose family, on his return to England, he became an inmate; and soon afterwards a representative in Parliament for the borough of Midhurst. About this time the affairs of Russia having assumed an interesting aspect for Europe, an alliance with that power appeared desirable to England, on many considerations, and particularly in a commercial point of view. A treaty of commerce had for some years before engaged the attention of the British government; but none of its diplomatic agents had either skill or weight enough to make any progress with the Russian cabinet. Under these circumstances, Mr. Macartney's abilities were employed by Lord Sandwich, and on August 22, 1764, he was appointed envoy extraordinary to the empress. On this occasion he received from his Majesty the honour of knighthood. Having laid the solid foundation of a good understanding with Count Panin, who was then at the head of the Russian affairs, he ventured to open the grand object of his mission, and, after a close negotiation of four months, the treaty of commerce was brought to a conclusion. Owing to an ambiguity in one of its clauses, however, it was not ratified by the English court. But, a second treaty being signed, the great object of his mission was obtained; and Sir George Macartney returned to England. On February 1, 1768, he was married to Lady Jane Stuart, second daughter of John Earl of Bute, and in the following year was appointed chief secretary of Ireland, under the administration of Lord Townshend. In 1772, he relinquished this situation; being nominated about the same time a knight

knight companion of the order of the Bath; and received in 1774, as a further reward for his services, the appointment of governor and constable of the castle and fortress of Toome. In December 1775, we find him appointed captain general and governor of the southern Caribbee Islands of Grenada, the Grenadines, and Tobago; and on June 10, 1776, advanced to the peerage of Ireland, by the title of Lord Macartney, Baron of Lissanoure, in the county of Antrim. His administration at the Caribbees, gave general satisfaction: and it contributed in no small degree to that gallant resolution with which the island of Grenada was afterwards defended, when attacked and subdued by a superior force under Count d'Estaing in 1779, Lord Macartney was now sent a close prisoner to France; his private fortune was materially injured by the capture; and he had the still further misfortune to lose not only his papers and accounts, but also the mass of observations and materials which he had gathered while travelling through the different states of Europe; and by the accidental firing of a vessel in which Lady Macartney had embarked for Europe, even the duplicates of such as he had thought most worthy preservation. His lordship remained but a short time as a prisoner of war at Limoges, before he was permitted to return to England; and was almost immediately after sent upon a confidential mission to Ireland. Toward the close of 1780 the distracted state of the presidency of Madras led the Court of Directors of the East India Company to name him as the person most proper in their opinion for promoting the tranquillity of the settlement, and the prosperity of their affairs on the coast of Coromandel. On the 21st of June 1781, he arrived before Pondicherry, and the following day landed at Madras, opened his commission, and took possession of his government. He found the situation of affairs on the coast in a more deplorable condition than he could well have imagined. Hyder Ali was in the midst of a victorious career. His successes had enabled him to spread his numerous horse over all the Carnatic. Parties approached daily to the very gates of Madras: and the nabob of Arcot and his family were obliged to take refuge in the town. Under Lord Macartney's direction, confidence in the government was not only revived to individuals, but the troops both in camp and garrison acquired fresh spirit from the marks of attention which were

shewn to their demands; and they soon after gave the strongest proofs of their bravery, discipline, and attachment, in the defeat of Hyder, under Sir Eyre Coote, at Porto Novo. The critical state, however, of the affairs of India, fully justified Lord Macartney's efforts to bring about a general reconciliation with the native powers. The peace with the Mahrattas, was followed by a second, and even a third defeat of Hyder's army; the capture of the Dutch settlements of Sadras, Pulicat, Madepollam, Policat, Jaggernautporam, Bimlipatam, and Negapatam, dissolved the connection which had been formed between that power and Hyder; and the assignment of the revenues of the Carnatic from the Nabob of Arcot, to Lord Macartney, for the use of the company rendered the termination of 1781 auspicious to the company's affairs. The next year, however, was calamitous. Toward its close Hyder Ali was succeeded in his government by Tippoo Saheb; with whom it is more than probable an early peace might have been concluded, could Lord Macartney have acted as he wished. In the account of this part of Lord Macartney's life, Mr. Barrow has entered minutely into the conduct of Gen. Stuart, who was seized by Mr. Staunton, under Lord Macartney's direction, and sent to England as a prisoner. A peace was now concluded with Tippoo. The undue interference of the supreme council at Bengal with the presidency of Madras, however, became a source of great mortification to Lord Macartney; which only ended with the removal of Mr. Hastings from his government; almost immediately after which, in consequence of the premature restitution which was ordered from England, of the assignment of the Carnatic revenues, Lord Macartney himself retired from Madras. Previous to his departure, he entered an affidavit and a declaration on the records of the council; the first declaring that from the day of his arrival he had never by himself, or by any other person for him, directly or indirectly accepted or received for his own benefit, from any person or persons whomsoever, a present or presents of any kind, except two pipes of Madeira wine from two particular friends, a few bottles of Champagne and Burgundy, and some fruits and provisions of very trifling value. Further that he had confined himself solely to the company's allowances, which were 40,000 pagodas per annum, and the commission and consulage on coral, which, during

his government had produced on an average 1000 pagodas per annum. That he had never embezzled or misappropriated any of the company's effects, but had observed his covenants, and acted in all things for their honour and interest. The Declaration stated the exact increase of his property, amounting to 81,796 pagodas. Soon after his return to Europe, Lord Macartney was offered the government of Bengal; but making a British peerage the *sine qua non* of his accepting it, and this not being consonant to the principles in regard to Indian appointments which Mr. Pitt and Mr. Dundas had laid down, the appointment was bestowed on Lord Cornwallis. After this he retired for six years to Ireland, where he engaged himself principally in the improvement of his paternal estate. In 1792, a more equal and at the same time a more creditable intercourse than had been hitherto kept up, was determined on with China. On this occasion the Court of Directors of the East India Company entered with becoming spirit into the views of Mr. Dundas: and Lord Macartney was looked upon as the only person capable of undertaking the mission with any probability of success. On the 3d of May, 1792, he received his appointment as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary from the king of Great Britain to the emperor of China, and in the month of September set out upon a voyage, the details of which may be found in Sir George Staunton's Authentic Account of the Embassy. On the 5th of September 1794, Lord Macartney landed at Portsmouth, where he had the gratification to find he had not been forgotten by his sovereign, who by patent at Dublin, dated the 1st of March 1794, had been pleased to advance him to the title of Earl Macartney, in the county of Antrim. The winter which immediately followed his return from China, he was permitted to pass at his ease with his friends; but in June 1795, he was again called upon to undertake an important mission to Italy of delicate and confidential nature. From Italy, he returned through Germany, and reached England in May 1796: soon after which his Majesty was further pleased to create him a British peer, under the title of Baron Macartney, of Parkhurst in Surry. In 1797, he sailed from Portsmouth to take upon him the government of the Cape of Good Hope, which had been conferred, entirely on the ground of fitness. But his health being materially affected, he only stopped

there till the 20th of November, 1798; leaving behind him a declaration on record, similar to that which had been left in India. He arrived in England in the month of January, 1799, with a determination to retire wholly from public life. The returns of the gout, to which he had been accustomed for some years, were now quicker and severer than ever; and he felt himself unequal to continual hurry and bustle. He now passed a few years entirely in the society of his friends. During the greater part of the year 1805, the gout continued to hang about him, without advancing to a decided fit; and he continued in a languishing reduced state till the evening of the 31st of March, 1806, when, while reclining his head on his hand, as if dropping into a slumber, he sunk into the arms of death without a sigh, and without a struggle.

Such are the particulars minutely detailed by Mr. Barrow; and it must be owned that he has done no ordinary justice to the disinterestedness and unsullied integrity of Lord Macartney. Lord Macartney's character and general characteristics form a sort of corollary at the close, followed by an Appendix of original Letters and documents. The second volume of the Life is formed of the three only writings of Lord Macartney, which appear to have been digested into any thing like the regular shape of Treatises. The first consists of "Extracts from an Account of Russia, 1767." The second contains, "A short Sketch of the Political State of Ireland;" and the third, is "The Journal of his Embassy to China." Of these, the last affords the greatest share of entertainment. To abridge it in an analysis here, would be impossible. One of its most curious articles relates to the population and revenues of that vast country, as they exist within the great wall. The former, stated to Lord Macartney in detail by a Mandarin of high rank, amounted to no less than 333,000,000, the latter are rated in China at two hundred millions of taëls, or 66,666,666l. Of Tartary, Lord Macartney observes, the Chinese are almost as ignorant as we are: scarcely any of them having ever seen it, except a few officers sent on military duty, and persons banished to it for crimes. The Chinese talk of Tartary, as of a country half as big as the rest of the world besides, but their conceptions of its limits are very dark and confused.

Another valuable work, in the class of Biography, has appeared in the late

Dr. HILL's "*Account of the Life and Writings of Dr. Blair.*" Dr. Hill undertook the task at the express request of his venerable friend; but before he could present the world with the fruit of his labours, he was himself summoned to the grave. Under such circumstances criticism would be disarmed, even did the execution of the task excite severity: but in this instance, we have only to bestow our praise. The work is an honourable memorial of the piety and affection of a grateful pupil, to the memory of a beloved and venerable master. In another Retrospect, we shall give a full detail of its contents.

Here also may be noticed the octavo edition of "*Isaac Walton's Lives of Dr. Donne, Herbert, Hooker, Sir Henry Wotton, and Bishop Sanderson, with Notes, and a Life of the Author,*" by Dr. ZOUCH. The price of this work, in the quarto form, was too high to allow of a general circulation. It is now reduced, and we hope its success will be proportionate to its real value.

VOYAGES AND TRAVELS.

Under this head the number of works we have to mention is but small.

One of the most valuable is the "*Journal of a Tour in Ireland,*" in 1806, by Sir RICHARD COLT HOARE, Bart. In the Introduction, which occupies no less than a hundred and nine pages, we are presented with a summary of such authentic particulars as relate to the early periods of Irish History; and more especially to the English affairs in Ireland, in the twelfth century, as related by Giraldus de Barri. Closing with the civil and ecclesiastical divisions of the country.

To follow the Journal itself minutely, is unnecessary: Sir Richard Hoare appears to have crossed in the usual way from Holyhead to Dublin; making first a Southern, and afterwards a Northern tour. The accounts of the more interesting curiosities are not confined to mere description, but are accompanied by references and quotations which evince both the learning and researches of the author. As a fair specimen we shall quote the description of the "GIANTS' CAUSEWAY."

"*Sunday, August 17.*—Our intended plans and high expectations were considerably deranged, by the very unfavourable appearance of the morning. Our curiosity to see this far-famed wonder of the North was great and urgent; and

the very idea of moping within our dull quarters at Coleraine, was too much for us to support: we proceeded therefore on our journey to the Causeway, which is distant from Coleraine eight long miles. No one object on this tract intervenes, either to amuse the eye, or divert the attention; they must feed by anticipation on the natural curiosities they have in view. Passing by the shell of a large church in ruins, we came to the little village of *Bush Mills*, situated on the river Bush, which falls over a weir near the bridge; we stopped at a cottage, not far distant from the Causeway, where we found a room for ourselves, and stabling for our horses.

"About twelve o'clock the clouds dispersed, and the heavens seem disposed to favour our expedition. Of things so much talked of, we are too apt to form exaggerated ideas; for *omne ignotum pro magnifico est*, and I know of none, whose praises have been so much vaunted as the Lake of Killarney and the Giants' Causeway; the Southern and Northern wonders of Ireland. When such gigantic epithets are applied to objects, we of course expect to see nature decked in her grandest and most horrid attire; and the idea which my imagination had formed concerning the Causeway, was that of a high and extensive range of basaltic columns, stretching forth boldly into the sea like a stately pier; but from its flatness, the Causeway is totally overlooked, until pointed out by your guide; its detail, however, when examined on the spot, is extremely curious. The surrounding mountains, though rather on a large scale, are not sufficiently varied to give them a beautiful appearance, or columnar enough to give them an imposing one: in short, the whole of this scenery will prove more satisfactory to the natural philosopher and mineralogist, than to the artist. Having never studied mineralogy, I feel totally incompetent to give either a just or adequate description of this great natural curiosity; but my readers will have no cause to lament my inability, when I lay before them an account of the Causeway and its basaltes, drawn up by the Rev. William Hamilton, in his Letters concerning the Northern Coast of Antrim.

"The Causeway itself is generally described as a mole or quay, projecting from the base of a steep promontory, some hundred feet into the sea, and is formed of perpendicular pillars of basaltes, which stand in contact with each other

other, exhibiting a sort of polygon pavement, somewhat resembling the appearance of a solid honeycomb. The pillars are irregular prisms, of various denominations, from three to eight sides; but the hexagonal columns are as numerous as all the others together.

"On a minute inspection, each pillar is found to be separable into several joints, whose articulation is neat and compact beyond expression; the convex termination of one joint always meeting a concave socket in the next; besides which, the angles of one frequently shoot over those of the other, so that they are completely locked together, and can rarely be separated without a fracture of these parts.

"The sides of each column are unequal amongst themselves, but the contiguous sides of adjoining columns are always of equal dimensions, so as to touch in all their parts.

"Though the angles be of various magnitudes, yet the sum of the contiguous angles of adjoining pillars, always make up four right ones; so that there are no void spaces among the basaltic, the surface of the Causeway exhibiting to view a regular and compact pavement of polygon stones.

"The outside covering is soft, and of a brown colour, being the earthy parts of the stone, nearly deprived of its metallic principle by the action of the air and of the marine acid which it receives from the sea.

"Having spent a few hours in examining the Causeway, we visited a cavern in a little bay to the westward, and not far from the cottage where we had left our chaise. Here the artist will find a grand subject for his pencil, which I was prevented from taking, by a violent and dangerous fall in getting into the cavern. This subterraneous grotto, into which the sea roars with great violence, is certainly worth notice; its entrance has been shut up (and I have reason to think, unlawfully) in order to claim from strangers an admission-fee."

Subjoined to the Journal, we have a collection of "General Remarks." The first division of these is appropriated to such objects as lay claim to the most remote antiquity, particularly the rude pillars and cromlechs, supposed to have been erected by the first inhabitants of Ireland. From these Sir Richard Hoare proceeds to the Oratories, Chapels, and round Towers of a period of time less distant: following them with other ob-

servations on the Stone Crosses, Earth Works, and Religious Buildings. In regard to "the modern prospect which the capital and its provinces present to the *Stranger in Ireland*," we cannot but confess that Sir Richard Hoare has drawn a most distressing picture. In the "Conclusion" of his work we heartily agree. "If we look to the temperature of the Irish climate, the fertility of its soil, the bays, estuaries, and rivers, with which its provinces are intersected; in short, if we consider the numerous and great advantages which nature has profusely lavished upon this Island, although we must at present lament the want of industry and activity in improving them, yet every one must view with secret satisfaction the latent riches and succour which the mother country may in future times derive from the daughter."

A work of a different, and to those who love adventures, certainly of a more striking nature will be found, in "*Travels in the Year 1806, from Italy to England, through the Tyrol, Styria, Bohemia, Galicia, Poland, and Livonia; containing the Particulars of the Liberation of Mrs. Spencer Smith from the Hands of the French Police, and of her subsequent Flight through the Countries above mentioned; effected and written by the MARQUIS DE SALVO.*"

Fastidious critics may possibly express surprise at receiving another quarto from the pen of SIR JOHN CARR so soon. But we can assure our readers, they will find a source of curious entertainment in the "*Tour through Holland, along the right and left Banks of the Rhine, to the South of Germany, made in the Summer and Autumn of 1806.*" It is inferior to none of his former productions. Sir John Carr opens it with a confession. It was during Lord Lauderdale's negotiation that, the war preventing a regular intercourse between this country and Holland, he borrowed a passport from an American friend, and having reached Maesland-sluis, on the other side the Maes, proceeded in a fast-sailing fishing-boat to Rotterdam. The stratagem, he says, if not perfectly blameless, was at least an inoffensive one, as he went not to investigate the nakedness of the land, but to view its natives in their ordinary habits, to glide upon their liquid roads, to saunter in their green avenues and flourishing gardens, and trace the wonderful results of that daring and indefatigable ingenuity, which has raised the permanent habitation of man in the

ocean, and made successful inroads upon the physical order of the universe. Although the deception, he adds, gave no pang to his conscience, it did not escape the lash of many a petty inconvenience, and subjected him more than once to dilemmas that were even perilous.

To accompany Sir John Carr minutely, through his travels here, would be impossible; though we cannot help noticing a few of the pictures he has occasionally drawn. One of the most prominent occurs in the character of the King of Holland. The leading features in the constitution of that country, he observes, are the guarantee of the payment of the national debt; the free and unqualified exercise of religion; the predominant authority vested in the king, the establishment of the salique law, for ever excluding females from the throne; the declaration that the minority of any future king shall expire upon his attaining his eighteenth year; that only natives shall be eligible to any offices under the state, exclusive of those immediately appertaining to the king's household; that the yearly revenue of the king shall be two millions of florins, and that the royal residences shall be the palaces of the Hague, in the Wood, and at Soestdyke. "The King," adds Sir John Carr, "has given general satisfaction by the choice he has made of the persons he has nominated to fill the public offices; and if the wishes of one who trespassed a little irregularly upon their shores can avail, the brave, frugal, and indefatigable Hollanders will derive happiness, and, when peace is restored to Europe, prosperity under their new government." Having visited the principal towns in the country, Sir John Carr proceeded from Utrecht to Arnheim, about four miles from which, after passing a bridge of boats at Sevenhal, he entered a small town, at the end of which is the first barrier of the new territories of Prince Joachim, Grand Admiral of France and Duke of Berg. Thence, through Wesel, he pursued his route to Dusseldorf, Cologne, and more particularly Bonn, afford some interesting anecdotes. The wildness of the scenery, however, appears to improve at Andernach and Ehrenbreitstein. But in this part of the work we no longer read, as in Holland, of the content and merriment of the inhabitants, but of the sad reduction of their cities, not only in strength and splendour, but in population. At Coblenz, it is stated, that the inhabitants,

including the garrison and the vale of Ehrenbreitstein, have been reduced within the last twelve years from thirteen to nine thousand. Mayence, from the peculiar strictness of the police, Sir John Carr was content to view at a distance. At Frankfort, however, he was more at liberty, and gives the following description of the fair. "I was pleased with the fair, although it fell far short of my expectation; the principal booths which were erected near the Römer, and also parallel with the river Maine, formed a very agreeable and sprightly street, entirely covered with canvas awnings: here all sorts of goods, the productions of various parts of the globe, were exposed to sale; and here were also several booksellers' stalls, where the most eminent works are sold folded in sheets, for the purchase of lesser merchants in the trade. No press in the world is so prolific as the German;—the number of ingenious works which it annually yields, amongst which are many able productions, is astonishing. I was informed that the fair had wasted almost to nothing, in consequence of the various injuries it has sustained from the war, and the severe policy of Bonaparte respecting the introduction of English manufacture, very little of which was to be found at this mart. In the printsellers' stalls, which used to be well supplied from the English school of engraving, were very few prints worthy of attention. I saw several execrable imitations of some from the exquisite pencil of Westall. At the end of the principal street of the fair, close to the river, were rows of immense tubs, in which, like Diogenes, many poor German tradesmen and their families very sagaciously ate and slept, for want of a better habitation." An excursion to the beautiful and elegant little sovereign town of Offenbach, about five English miles from Frankfort, enabled Sir John Carr to admire the great progress which the Germans have made in carriage-building. The last place he visited was Darmstadt, beyond which, the storm which was at that time gathering against Prussia, hindered him from pursuing his journey. He applied for permission to the French minister to return, *pour changer*, to Rotterdam by the way of Brussels, Antwerp, &c. but was refused, and ordered to keep on the right bank of the Rhine. Being thus forced to retrace the very steps by which he had arrived at Darmstadt, he at last reached Maesland-sluis, and embarked for

for England in the identical galliot which had carried him to the Maes.

Till the interdict which prevents our countrymen from visiting Holland and its neighbourhood, shall be taken off, we must probably content ourselves with the view of its existing circumstances as they are here drawn. Sir John Carr's tour was certainly rapid, and made under many disadvantages; but we are confident to say, that in anecdote, and the correctness of its pictures, it will not very soon be superseded. The Views which illustrate it, engraved by Mr. Daniel, are extremely elegant. They are of the Hague, Rotterdam, Delft, Scheveling, Leyden, Haarlem; the Stadt-house, Amsterdam; the Pyramid at Zeyst, Utrecht, Dusseldorf, Cologne, Bonn, Andernach, Coblenz, and Ehrenbreitstein, Boppard, Bibberich, Mayence, Frankfort, and Darmstadt. Prefixed, is a Map of the Rhine, from Dusseldorf to Mayence.

Another work of merit will be found in Mr. HERIOT'S "*Travels through the Canadas*," a residence in which, for a series of years, afforded the author opportunities not only of entering minutely into the civil and domestic history of the provinces, but of viewing nature in her wildest forms, and of witnessing the modes of life pursued by many of the tribes which are so numerous scattered through the extensive regions of America. Having opened his Travels with an account of the Azores, Mr. Heriot proceeds in the second chapter to Newfoundland, where the manners of the Eskimaux Indians form a short but curious digression. In the third chapter he enters the St. Lawrence, taking a rapid view of the objects and scenes up the course of the river to Quebec. The falls of Niagara, which follow the description of the country to the Westward of Quebec, afford one of the most striking relations in the volume. They appear to surpass in sublimity every description which the powers of language can supply, and form the most wonderful and awful scene which the habitable world presents. The ninth and tenth chapters are entirely devoted to the Canadas. As far as they themselves are concerned, their commerce and administration, Mr. Heriot speaks entirely from his own knowledge. But in the second portion of the volume, where he enters into a comparative view of the manners and customs of the Indian nations, he has had recourse to various authorities; to the documents

found in the Jesuits' College at Quebec, and to Memoirs, Travels, and other works of credit, which have been published at different periods, as well in the English as in other languages. Where the subjects are so numerous and involved, a particular analysis of twenty chapters cannot be expected. It may be sufficient perhaps to point out a few of the more striking parts. The account of the domiciliated Indians of Jeune Lorette is at once pleasing and animated: nor will the philosopher be less pleased than the politician, with the information Mr. Heriot has collected from various sources relating to the American Aborigines. Their domestic customs, superstitions, warfare, sports, and diseases, are all enlarged upon; and at the close we have some valuable information on the Indian languages. The plates which accompany the work, are numerous; from drawings by Mr. Heriot himself. They afford views of scenery, with which none but those who had visited the Canadas were before acquainted. Altogether we deem it one of the most curious publications that have of late appeared.

MEDICINE.

The productions of the medical profession, furnished by the last half-year, have been still fewer than ever.

One of the most important in the list will probably be found in "*The Sketch of the Revolutions of Medical Science, and Views to its Reform*," by P. J. G. CABANIS, translated from the French by Dr. HENDERSON. The second chapter comprises in itself an extensive Survey of the History of Medicine; beginning with the early cultivation of it by the chiefs of savage tribes, by the poets, priests, and first philosophers, and by the schools of Greece, especially that of Hippocrates. M. Cabanis next gives an account of the state of the science among the Romans, continuing it to the time of the establishment of the Arabian schools, and thence to its introduction into Europe. After noticing the Jewish physicians, and the first sect of chemical physicians, he speaks of the revival of Learning, and the Hippocratic system of Stahl and Van Helmont, of Sydenham, Harvey, Boerhaave, Hoffmann, and Baglivi; concluding with an account of the new Schools of Medicine at Edinburgh and Montpellier. On the subject of medical reform, it is impossible we should here give an analysis of the

author's observations. It may perhaps be enough to say they are in general judicious.

A work, not only much extended, but materially improved also, occurs in the new edition of the "*London Medical Dictionary*," originally compiled by Doctors MOTHERBY and WALLIS. Though broken into articles, the different subjects are properly connected; a systematic arrangement of each having been first formed on given principles. The references attached to each article point out the original writers on the different subjects.

Another work, of which the title only was mentioned in our last, is Mr. JOHNSTON'S "*Practical Observations on Urinary Gravel and Stone; on Diseases of the Bladder and Prostate Gland; and on Strictures of the Urethra*." The different combinations under which these diseases appear, tend very much to perplex and embarrass the medical practitioner. Mr. Johnston, however, has endeavoured to point out distinctly the circumstances attending each modification, and to explain the practice which has been found, or may be considered most likely, to remove or alleviate complaints so formidable and distressing. In the treatment of gravel and stone, alkalies appear to be the chief remedies recommended. In respect to the principal diseases of the urinary organs, Mr. Johnston has accurately detailed both the theory and practice of several men of eminence.

SCARPA'S "*Practical Observations on the principal Diseases of the Eye*," translated by Mr. BRIGGS, will be found a work of considerable merit. The subject of Cataract forms the most interesting chapter in the volume.

Mr. CARMICHAEL'S "*Essay on the Effect of Carbonate of Iron upon Cancer; with an Inquiry into the Nature of that Disease*;" seems to have been hardly formed upon sufficient data. He considers Cancer as an animal.

There are a few detached observations in Dr. CUMING'S "*Naval, Military, and Private Practitioner's Amanuensis Medicus et Chirurgicus*," which probably may prove instructive; but we cannot give a general commendation of the work. Some of the most important diseases, both in medicine and surgery, are wholly overlooked by the author; while others are but very superficially examined.

POETRY.

"*Specimens of the later English Poets, with preliminary Notices*," by ROBERT SOUTHEY.

As a Sequel to Mr. Ellis's '*Specimens of the early English Poets*,' we cannot give the three volumes here noticed, the commendation we could wish. Mr. Ellis's *Specimens* were chosen with the most exquisite taste, and criticized with a truth, a delicacy, and a neatness of expression, which have not frequently been equalled: while the materials of Mr. Southey's work seem to have been brought together in a more hurried manner, and the Poets of a later day criticized with more harshness than might reasonably have been expected from a brother bard. In the Preface, Mr. Southey tells us, that many worthless versifiers are admitted among the English Poets by the courtesy of criticism, which seems to conceive that charity towards the dead may cover the multitude of its offences against the living. But that there were other reasons for including in this work the reprobate, as well as the elect. His business was to collect specimens as for a *Hortus Siccus*, not to cull flowers as for an Anthology. After a rapid sketch of the progress, or rather the changes of our Poetry from Chaucer to Akenside, the *Specimens* commence; consisting of samples from the works of every writer whose verses appear in a substantive form, and find their place upon the shelves of the collector. The preliminary notices prefixed to each, however, afford in some instances only a criticism or a censure. Indeed, Mr. Southey says in his Preface, that "of a few great writers it was unnecessary to say any thing, of some ignoble ones sufficient to say what they had written." Although of a few lives more ample sketches are afforded: those of Otway, Mrs. Manly, Budgell, Relph, and Carey, in the first volume; Miller and Jones, in the second; and Wilkie, in the third volume; are perhaps among the best. In regard to the *Specimens* themselves, we may observe, that, though unequal in merit, they certainly afford an opportunity of giving a few extracts superior to any we can select from the productions of the day. The following is entitled, "*The Wish*," from the Poetry of JAMES HUGHES.

Ye pow'rs who sway the skies above,
The load of mortal life remove:
I cannot, lab'ring thus, sustain
Th' excessive burthen of my pain!

A dance

A dance of pleasures, hurrying by,
Enduring griefs, a glimpse of joy,
With blessings of a brittle kind,
Inconstant, shifting as the wind,
Are all your suppliant has known,
Since first his lingering race begun.
In pity, then, pronounce my fate,
And here conclude my shorten'd date ;
'Tis all I ask you, to bestow
A safe retreat from future woe!

From the second volume of these
Specimens we quote the "*Life of a Fool*,"
by Mr. James Millar, who died in 1744.

A fool enjoys the sweets of life,
Unwounded by its cares ;
His passions never are at strife ;
He hopes not, he, nor fears.

If Fortune smile, as smile she will,
Upon her booby brood,
The fool anticipates no ill,
But reaps the present good.

Or should, thro' love of change, her wheels
Her favourite bantling cross,
The happy fool no anguish feels,
He weighs nor gains nor loss.

When knaves o'er-reach, and friends betray,
Whilst men of sense run mad,
Fools, careless, whistle on, and say,
'Tis silly to be mad.

Since free from sorrow, fear, and shame,
A fool thus fate defies,
The greatest folly I can name,
Is to be over-wise.

And from the third volume we select
a longer Specimen in "*The Bramble*,"
from the Poetry of the Rev. Samuel Bishop.

While wits thro' fiction's regions ramble,
While bards for fame or profit scramble :
While Pegasus can trot, or amble ;
Come, what may come,—I'll sing the Bramble:
'How now! methinks I hear you say,
Why? what is rhyme run mad to-day?'
No, Sirs, mine's but a sudden gambol ;
My muse hung hamper'd in a bramble.
But soft! no more of this wild stuff!

Once for a frolick is enough ;
So help us rhyme, at future need,
As we in soberer style proceed.
All subjects of nice disquisition
Admit two modes of definition ;
For every thing two sides has got,
What is it? and what is it not?
Both methods, for exactness sake,
We with our bramble mean to take;
And by your leave, will first discuss,
Its negative good parts,—as thus.
A bramble will not, like a rose,
To prick your fingers, tempt your nose,
When'er it wounds, the fault's your own,
Let that, and that let's you, alone.
You shut your myrtles for a time up,
Your jasmine wants a wall to climb up;

But bramble, in its humbler station,
Nor weather heeds, nor situation ;
No season is too wet, or dry for't,
No ditch too low, no hedge too high for't.
Some praise, and that with reason too,
The honey-suckle's scent and hue ;
But sudden storms, or sure decay,
Sweep, with its bloom, its charms away;
The sturdy bramble's coarser flow'r
Maintains it's post, come blast, come show'r ;
And when time crops it, time subdues
No charms ;—for it has none to lose.
Spite of your skill, and care and cost,
Your nobler shrubs are often lost ;
But brambles, where they once get footing,
From age to age continue shooting ;
Ask no attention, nor forecasting ;
Not ever-green ; but everlasting.
Some shrubs intestine hatred cherish,
And plac'd too near each other, perish ;
Bramble indulges no such whim,
All neighbours are alike to him ;
No stump so scrubby, but he'll grace it,
No crab so sour but he'll embrace it.
Such, and so various negative merits,
The bramble from it's birth inherits ;
Take we its positive virtues next !
For so at first we split our text.
The more Resentment tugs and kicks,
The closer still the bramble sticks ;
Yet gently handled, quits its hold,
Like heroes of true British mould ;
Nothing so touchy, when they're teased,
No touchiness so soon appeased.
Full in your view, and next your hand,
The bramble's homely berries stand:
Eat as you list,—none calls you glutton ;
Forbear,—it matters not a button.
And is not, pray, this very quality
The essence of true hospitality ?
When frank simplicity and sense
Make no parade, take no offence ;
Such as it is, set forth their best,
And let the welcome—add the rest.
The brambles shoot, though fortune lay
Point-blank obstructions in its way
For no obstructions will give out,
Climbs up, creeps under, winds about ;
—Like valour, that can suffer, die,
Do any thing, but yield or fly.
While brambles hints like these can start,
Am I to blame to take their part?
No, let who will affect to scorn 'em,
My Muse shall glory to adorn 'em ;
For as Rhyme did in my preamble,
So Reason now cries, 'Bravo! bramble!'

Another, though a less varied collection of compositions will be found in the "*Oxford Prize Poems*:" a small volume, the contents of which appear to have merit proportionate to the degrees of competition excited by the subjects of the different prizes. The Poems are on the following subjects: The Conquest of Quebec,

Quebec, by Mr. Howard of Wadham College, which obtained the Prize in 1768; The Love of our Country, by Mr. Butson of New College, 1771; The beneficial Effects of Inoculation, by Mr. Lipscombe, of Corpus Christi College, 1772; The Aboriginal Britons, by Mr. Richards, of Oriel College, 1791; Palestine, by Mr. Heber of Brasen-nose College, 1803; and a Recommendation of the Study of the Remains of ancient Grecian and Roman Architecture, Sculpture, and Painting, by Mr. Wilson, of Magdalen College, 1806; of these, the Love of our Country, the Aboriginal Britons, and Palestine, are probably the best: although the beneficial effects of Inoculation, unpoetical as the subject may at first sight seem, are treated with no ordinary degree of embellishment. The following lines may serve as a fair specimen of "Palestine."

When coward Asia shook in trembling woe,
And bent appall'd before the Bactrian bow;
From the moist regions of the western star,
The wandering hermit wak'd the storm of war.
Their limbs all iron, and their souls all flame,
A countless host, the red-cross warriors came:
E'en hoary priests the sacred combat wage,
And clothe in steel the palsied arm of age;
While beardless youths, and tender maids
assume

The weighty morion and the glancing plume.
In bashful pride the warrior virgins wield
The ponderous falchion, and the sun-like
shield;

And start to see their armour's iron gleam
Dance with blue lustre in Tabaria's stream.
The blood-red banner floating o'er their van,
All madly blithe the mingled myriads ran:
Impatient Death beheld his destin'd food,
And hovering vultures snuff'd the scent of
blood.

"*Sympathy, Landscapes in Verse, Tears of Genius, Cottage Pictures, and other Poems, revised, corrected, and enlarged, by Mr. PRATT; with engravings by Cardon, after Drawings by Louthembourg and Barker.*" This elegant volume will be welcomed no less by the admirers of beautiful typography, and masterly engravings, than by the lovers of Poetry. The designs of Louthembourg are very finely conceived, and spiritedly executed. The "Social Savage," and "The Hermit," from the Poem of "Sympathy," are chef d'œuvres in their way; both from the hands of Barker, the painter of the "Woodman," &c. Of the contents of this volume we cannot speak too highly. "Sympathy," has long since taken its rank among the very best Poems of the age; and will never be out of fashion

while there are hearts susceptible of enjoying the best and purest pleasures of human nature. If there be any one subject better adapted than another to the Muse of Mr. Pratt, it is unquestionably that of Sympathy. "Cottage Pictures," written during a year of alarming scarcity, contain much useful information and admonition, as well as much delightful poetry. Besides Tears of Genius, and Landscapes in Verse, there are in this collection several occasional Poems, of recent dates, which are pleasing proofs that the fire of imagination still keeps pace with the benevolent warmth of the Poet's heart. In short, we thank Mr. Pratt for this volume, which by its manner and matter is so well adapted to supersede the political squibs in verse, and the licentious ballads, that have too long been the nuisance of the toilette, the drawing-room, and the alcove.

The circumstances under which Mr. FIFE'S "*Poems and Criticisms*" appear, demand peculiar indulgence. He did not live to publish them himself; and by their success the cause of the helpless is to be supported. Among the Poems on the different months we are told, "February," was in such an imperfect state that it could not be inserted, and the months "October" and "November," were not to be found. These are clear indications, that if the different specimens had received the author's last correction, they would have appeared to greater advantage than at present. "January," is one of the best. The criticisms are more neatly written than the Poetry: though we think we have read the substance of several before. That which relates to a passage borrowed from Dryden, by Goldsmith, we think is hardly made out. If it is, Goldsmith improved wonderfully upon the lines he stole.

The Poem, however, which seems to demand the greatest attention in our present Retrospect, is Mr. SOTHEY'S "*Saul*:" in blank verse. It has less freedom perhaps than almost any of his former productions, and is in many instances abrupt. But there is a strain of piety in it, and an occasional beauty of language which deserve our warmest commendation. It consists of two parts, in four books each. The first book opens with the symptoms of Saul's possession with the evil spirit. Mr. Sothey supposes the unhappy king to be haunted by a spectre which successively assumes his own form and character in the days of shepherd innocence: from time to time

time addressing him. In the second book, the king's despondence is supposed to be relieved in some degree by the tumult of a proposed campaign against the Philistines: and in this part of the Poem Samuel is introduced. Then we have Goliath, whose panoply is described as near as possible from Scripture. The song of the Virgins in the fourth book, celebrating David's victory, has perhaps as much spirit as any passage in the Poem. In the second part, we cannot but complain of the great licence Mr. Sotheby has used, in not merely departing from the letter of Sacred History, but in the interpolation of his narrative. David retreating into the wilderness is anointed king by Samuel, and sees the line of his descendants in a vision, ending with a prophetic hymn which celebrates the advent of our Saviour. David's alliance with Achish, however, forms no part of the poem. At its close we have this moral:

" Thus the Lord
From Land to Land, throughout the regions,
spread
The fame of his Anointed :—and his fear
Fell on all nations.

Man! obey thy God!"

Mr. Sotheby has been long known as a Poet, and though in the present instance he is not to be compared with Milton, we do not hesitate to assert, that the Poem of Saul has merit of no ordinary kind.

Here also it is proper we should mention Mr. RANNIE'S Poems: leaving it to the reader to determine in which line of composition he has succeeded best, whether in his *Musical Dramas*, his *Select Poems*, or his *Ballads*.

In the advertisement prefixed to Mr. GORDON'S "*Poems*," we are told that "out of respect to the public, as much attention has been given to them as the author's situation could admit." We wish after such a declaration we could praise them. But we really cannot.

"*Simonidea*," we confess, was a title which at first we did not understand; but Mr. LANDOR informs us in his preface, that he gave it to his Poems, because "the first of them commemorates the dead—a species of composition in which Simonides excelled." Among the productions here presented to the reader, there are several in Latin, though the larger portion are in English. Of these, the longest, entitled "*Gunlaug and Helga*," is taken from a story in Mr. Herbert's Translations from Icelandic

Poetry; and has both great merits and defects. Mr. Landor's faults appear principally to have arisen from his negligence. His Latin poetry, which is in some respects better than his English, likewise shows marks of rapidity.

"*St. Stephen's Chapel*," a satirical poem, by HORATIUS, is but an ephemeral production, which has evidently been hurried to the press to catch the moment. The author's poetry appears to most advantage to his eulogies: but we cannot approve the many specimens of domestic rancour which have appeared, not only in this, but in other pamphlets which we shall forbear to notice.

EDUCATION.

The works which have appeared in this class are neither many nor important.

Dr. COWAN'S "*Anthropaideia*," certainly possesses vigour of thought and originality of sentiment. He first treats of the faculties and qualities of the human mind; and afterwards considers it as affected by external objects, natural and artificial. There are some parts of his work, however, on which we cannot bestow our commendation. Several writers of acknowledged merit, whose labours might have been useful to Dr. Cowan, are rejected or totally passed by; and the work of Professor Dugald Stewart is treated in a manner highly reprehensible.

Here, also, in preference to any other class, we place Mr. GOLDSMITH'S "*Geographical Copy-Book*," consisting of a Set of outlines of Countries, and a Set of similar Projections of Lines of Latitude and Longitude, for the purpose of being filled up from any existing maps by the pupil. These skeletons correspond in size with the small atlases, best known in schools, such as Guthrie's, Walker's and Ostell's, and also with most of the Maps contained in Mr. Goldsmith's own Grammar and Popular Geography.

— Another book which deserves our commendation, is, "*The Art of Rhetoric made easy; or the Elements of Oratory*," by JOHN HOLMES. It is an improved edition of a work which has now become very scarce; and contains the rules and figures of the science of which it treats, drawn up and explained with perspicuity and conciseness; and illustrated with taste and judgment. The editor of this edition is Dr. MAVOR.

DRAMA.

First, in the Dramatic class, from its merit, we place "*The Cursfew*," by Mr. TOBIN: the story of which is founded in the

the circumstance of some robbers attacking the castle of a Norman Baron, after the hour of Curfew. The scene in the second act, between Robert and Florence, bears a strong resemblance to that of Hubert and Arthur in King John; though this is probably to be attributed to coincidence. As a specimen of the language, we shall quote the Baron's address to Matilda.

Bar. Now observe her then.
 Woman, stand forth and answer to our charge.
 The universal cry is loud against you
 For practised witchcraft—the consuming
 plagues
 Of murrain, blight, and mildew, that make
 vain
 The peasant's labour, blasting his full hopes,
 Are laid to your account—they charge more-
 over
 Your skill in noxious herbs, and ev'ry weed
 Of pois'nous growth, the teeming earth is
 rank with,
 Fatal to man and beast—that these collecting
 By the full moon with wicked industry
 You do apply to hellish purposes;
 To shrink up the sound limb, and with a
 touch
 Plant wrinkles on the blooming cheek of
 youth.
 This is not all—they urge most vehemently
 That you usurp the night's solemnity
 For deeds of darkness, horrible to think of!
 That when the yawning church-yards vomit
 forth
 The grisly troops of fiends, that haunt the
 night,
 You have been heard to mutter mischief with
 them,
 Dancing around a pile of dead men's bones
 To your own howling, and with hideous yells
 Invoking curses for the coming day.
 How answer you to this?

Another portion of a dialogue between the *Baron* and *Fitzharding*, the captain of the robbers, affords a specimen still more striking:

Bar. It was a galling wrong, but thou forgav'st it.
Fitz. I seemingly forgave it—thou believ'd'st me,
 And when thou held'st me to thy cred'lous
 breast
 I did not strangle thee.—We drank together,
 And still I mix'd no poison with thy wine.
 Alone, at midnight, o'er a dreary heath
 Have we pass'd—on the extreme verge
 Of a sea-impending cliff, yet I abstained.—
 Ask me why, thus so often strangely tempted,
 I have withheld the blow?—'Twas not in
 mercy;—
 Say, was not this an honourable scar
 (stripping his arm.)
 To stamp upon a young and gallant soldier?
 A shame which on my body is so fix'd,

That I must be half rotted in my grave
 Ere death can cancel it.—Thou thought'st
 me dead,

And so I was to all but my revenge.
 The man whom thou didst find in thy wife's
 chamber

Was I.—The letters sent to thee were mine;
 And often under terrible affliction
 When thou bow'd to Heaven's mysterious
 chiding,

This arm, like thunder from a cloud has
 reach'd thee.

Bar. And are you not content?

Fitz. No jot appeased!

Tho' I should kill thee with extremest tor-
 ture,

To 'suage the burning thirst of my revenge—
 Drink thy blood life-warm; tear those trem-
 bling limbs,

And scatter them as whirlwinds strew the
 dust

Mid the triumphant pantings of my soul,
 Vengeance would weep to think thy pangs
 were mortal.

Among the *Bagatelles* of the Drama, we place Mr. DIMOND'S "*Young Hussar*:" an operatic piece in two acts. In criticising its contents, we shall use the author's own words, "To praise it highly is impossible. To censure it severely would be ill-natured." The stage-direction at the close we consider as a good caricature of the finale in the generality of modern plays. "*Music—The lovers fall into each others arms—The parents bend over them in benediction—BONCOUR, NINETTE, and the Military dispose themselves in different attitudes of surprize and joy. The Curtain drops upon the groupe.*"

"*Town and Country*," a comedy by Mr. MORTON, may be well adapted to the stage, but we cannot say much for its perusal in the closet. There it wants the aids both of scenery and acting.

"*Peter the Great*," by Mr. CHERRY, is not inferior to some of his former productions.

NOVELS AND ROMANCES.

The last half-year has been abundantly prolific in works of this description; but they have been almost without exception worthless. Miss PORTER'S "*Hungarian Brothers*," must be mentioned as an exception; and it stands with no inconsiderable share of honourable distinction, in a class of productions, in which almost all the rest that have appeared are characterised by their insipidity, their immorality, or their defamation. We mentioned on a former occasion the crowd of servile imitators of the title (but alas! nothing but the title) of "*A Winter in London*," and we have now to add to that list,

list, "*A Winter in Bath*;" "*A Winter at Bath*;" "*The Winter in Dublin*;" and by way of climax, we suppose, "*The Infidel Mother; or, Three Winters in London*." We should have hinted to the authors of these productions, that a title-page ought to have some relation to the contents of a book; had we not been made acquainted with the strange fact, that at least two of these works were named, not by the author, but the bookseller. This *ruse de commerce* of a tricking title-page is only an old cheat practised upon the purse of the public; but there is matter calling for much more serious censure in the last-mentioned work, with which it is not our province to interfere, otherwise than to lament that the press should be abused to such purposes. A work similar in character and tendency to the "*Infidel Mother*," is the "*Rising Sun*."

To the fair author of the "*Libertines*," we are inclined to use the language of the witches in Macbeth, and exclaim, "*Fair is foul, and foul is fair!*" The readers who can be amused, with such prurient trash as the *Libertines*, must have their mental appetites depraved, and their understandings warped in no common degree.

MISCELLANIES.

"*A Supplement to Dr. Johnson's Dictionary of the English Language: or a Glossary of Obsolete and Provincial Words*," by the late Rev. JONATHAN BOUCHER, A.M. Part the first. Lond. 1807.

The object of this valuable work is sufficiently explained by the title. It was Mr. Boucher's first intention to have presented to the world a Provincial Glossary only; but having likewise directed his attention to Obsolete Words as a subordinate part of his undertaking, he found that his first idea of giving the whole in two alphabets would be objectionable. Various instances were continually occurring in which it was extremely difficult to decide whether a word which was formerly provincial was not now obsolete, or whether a word supposed to be obsolete was not still provincial. In combining the two classes of words Mr. Boucher had proceeded as far as the letter G. His former Provincial Glossary having been advanced to T. Of the six letters which were compleated, the first is here submitted to the judgment of the public: and the advertisement prefixed concludes with this remark, that if from any intrinsic merit this first portion may appear to deserve a place on the same shelf with

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Johnson, the family and the friends of the lamented author will experience the satisfaction that they have not, from a mistaken zeal for his posthumous fame, sullied the literary character which he acquired while living.

We quote the following, as fair though short specimens:—

"AFRET, *part.* Filled with; fraught with.

For rounde, environ, her crounet
Was full of riche stones ofret.

Chauc. R. of the Rose, l. 3203.

"The etymology of this word, and of the verb *fret*, is, as Dr. Johnson observes, very doubtful. *Freight* of a ship, which in French is spelled *fret*, and in Latin *affretamentum*, has usually been referred to *fretum* or *frith*, a strait. But as many nautical terms have been adopted from the German, none of the etymologies mentioned by Johnson appear so reasonable, as to refer the word to the German "*fretten*," to load, from which the French *fret*, the German *fracht*, and the English *freight*, may easily be deduced.

"AND-IRONS, *n. s.* The irons, commonly called dogs, on which wood is laid to burn.

"Dr. Arbuthnot, speaking of Cornelius Scriblerus's shield, says:

The maid, a cleanly wench, had scoured it
as bright as her and-irons.

Memoirs of Martinus Scriblerus.

th' and-irons

(I had forgot them) were two winking cupids
Of silver, each on one foot standing, nicely
depending on their brands.

Cymbeline, Act. II. s. 6.

"The term *end-irons* is in Yorkshire applied to two coarse iron plates, used to contract the fire-place. They are moveable: when a great fire is wanted, they are placed at a distance; and nearer for a small one.

"*Andirons* are mentioned in an inventory of goodes and cattels, taken in the time of Henry VIII., and there called *awndirons*. See *Strutt'sorda*, &c. vol. iii. p. 64.

"A pair of antique *andirons* embossed with figures, were sold at the Marquis of Landsdown's sale, this spring, (1806) for seventy guineas.

"Skinner suggests three etymologies of this term: 1. Irons that may be moved by the hand; 2. *End-irons*, from their supporting the ends of the wood that is to be burnt; and 3. *Brand-irons*, as if it were a corruption of the Saxon *branden*, to burn. I conceive, however, that *and*, in this compound term, has the general

sense of the Saxon and in composition, being equivalent to the Greek *αντι*, or the English *against* or opposite to: so that the name describes the thing just as it is—one piece of iron set opposite to another. *Andzimbey* in Saxon, in like manner, is a beam laid opposite to another beam.

"In many places, and particularly in Shropshire, and the neighbouring counties, *andirons* are called *cob-irons*. This also is Saxon, and signifies the piling of the wood to be burned on such irons; from *copan*, *compilare*."

The only complaint we have to make is, that the authorities for the different quotations are very often incorrectly printed. Peck's is called sometimes *Packes*, and sometimes *Peckes* "*Desiderata Curiosa*." "*Queen Elizabeth's Progress*, for "*Progresses*," continually occurs; and for Marston's Satires, we have *Marstone's Saturise*." Among the longer and more curious articles, are those on *AMBRIE* and *AULD-NICK*.

Mr. BELOE's "*Anecdotes of Literature and scarce Books*," deserve particular attention. To say that they are free from errors would be wrong: but we have not often seen a work of miscellaneous information more amusing to the bibliographical enquirer.

The main body of the materials appear to have been selected from the vast library at the British Museum; aided by information from literary characters, whose names give a sufficient sanction to their different communications.

From the more valuable articles among the *Classical Fragments* we transcribe the following:

"*Juvenal et Persius*.—Long before Renouard had published his excellent book on the Lives and Works of the Printers of the name of Aldus, the learned Mr. Cracherode had discovered that two editions of Juvenal and Persius were printed at Venice by Aldus, and his brother-in-law Andrew, in the year 1501. The following is a note, written by Mr. Cracherode on the subject:

"*Satis constat hoc anno (1501) duas Juvenalis et Persii Editiones e Prelo Aldino prodisse, quarum altera neque solita Aldi præfert insignia, neque paginas habet numeratas; quæ vero ad calcem voluminis adjiuntur 'Venetiis in ædibus Aldi, &c.'* literis minoribus sive Italico caractere expressa sunt. Altera (quæ et posterior videtur, habet in fronte Delphinum Ancoræ implicitum, foliis absolvitur 76 numeratis, in fine denique hæc leguntur literis majusculis impressa VENE-

TIIS IN ÆDIBUS ALDI ET ANDRÆ SCACERI, &c.

"The Editio princeps of Juvenal was printed at Venice, by Spira, in 1470, and may be seen in the Cracherode collection. Concerning this edition, consult Maittaire 1, p. 296. Gaignat, 1675. De Bure, 2828. Panzer, v. 3. p. 485.

"Gaignat's copy sold for 185 livres, which was very cheap."

Another curious article occurs upon the *Cantica Canticorum*; but it is too long for quotation: and a third, of peculiar interest, is entitled *English Poetry*.

In the enumeration of the different plays in the Garrick, Kemble, Malone, and other collections, we have to complain that scarcely any thing but the individual title of the production is given; with few particulars of its contents, and sometimes not even a remark upon its rarity or curiosity. Instances, however, do occur where the latter observation will not apply. Of *Elkanah Settle's* "*Empress of Morocco*," Lond. 1673, Mr. Beloe observes:

"This play is much sought after, as being the first which was sold for what was then thought the enormous sum of two shillings. The engravings were not improbably a representation of the scenes, in one of which the most shocking tortures are exhibited. Horace did not think it possible that it should enter into the human imagination to exhibit things so offensive."

Nor are the anecdotes which relate to the Devonshire collection of gems of less important interest.

Another article, the last we shall transcribe, is the formal and authentic abdication of the supreme authority by Richard Cromwell. It exhibits the strong contrast of his character with that of his father Oliver.

"*His late Highness's Letter to the Parliament of England*:—

"Shewing his willingness to submit to this present government: attested under his own hand, and read in the House, on Wednesday the 25th of May 1659.

"I have perused the Resolve and Declaration which you were pleased to deliver to me the other night; and for your information touching what is mentioned in the said resolve, I have caused a true state of my debts to be transcribed, and annexed to this paper, which will shew what they are, and how they were contracted.

"As to that part of the Resolve whereby the committee are to inform themselves how far I do acquiesce in the government

vernment of this commonwealth, as it is declared by this parliament; I trust my past carriage hitherto hath manifested my acquiescence in the will and disposition of God, and that I love and value the peace of this commonwealth much above my own concerns; and I desire that by this a measure of my future deportment may be taken, which through the assistance of God shall be such as shall bear the same witness, having I hope in some degree learned rather to reverence and submit to the hand of God, than to be unquiet under it: And (as to the late providences that have fallen out among us), however in respect of the particular engagements that lay upon me, I could not be active in making a change in the government of these nations, yet, through the goodness of God, I can freely acquiesce in its being made, and do hold myself obliged, as (with other men) I expect *protection* from the present government, so to demean myself with all peaceableness under it, and to procure to the uttermost of my power, that all in whom I have any interest do the same.

“RICHARD CROMWELL.

“London: Printed by D. Maxwell, 1659.”

Mr. Beloe announces his intention of continuing the *Anecdotes* at intervals. A third volume, we understand, is now preparing for the press.

So little has been done for the illustration of Anglo-Saxon Literature, that we view with pleasure any thing which may conduce to its revival. At present we shall only mention the two first numbers of the “*Etymological Organic Reasoner*,” by Mr. HENSHALL. If we mistake not, they are in part the completion of a plan announced some years ago.

The very valuable materials contained in Mr. WARTON’S “*History of English Poetry*,” speak of themselves the benefit derived to the literary world by the publication of an Index. We can only wonder that such a labour was not performed before. Under the idea that the work itself would ere long be continued, it has been formed in separate alphabets; one for the Dissertations prefixed, and one for each of the volumes. Another may be easily added to any subsequent portion. As far as it has yet gone, it is correct and copious.

In this class also we shall place “*General Washington’s Fac Simile Letters to Sir John Sinclair*.”

The still fewer works than ever, which in consequence of one of Lord Kenyon’s decisions in 1798, are now entered at Stationer’s Hall, form the object of enquiry, in

Mr. CHRISTIAN’S “*Vindication of the Right of the Universities of Great Britain to a Copy of every new Publication*.”

On the propriety of the entry, and consequent distribution of eleven copies among our public libraries, no friend to literature will probably entertain a doubt. But there is one question, the decision of which seems very material in regard to the benefit which the Universities are likely to obtain from the statute of Queen Anne: “Whether the delivery of the copies at Stationer’s Hall was intended to depend upon the entry.” If this was not the case, the Acts at present in force by which the Stationer’s Company are made to benefit our public libraries must be viewed as inadequate to their intentions.

The looked for extension of our conquests in Spanish America has given rise to the publication of “*La Foresta Espanola*; or, Select Passages in Prose, extracted from the most celebrated Spanish authors, ancient and modern. To which are prefixed, Observations on the Origin, Progress and Decline of Literature in Spain. They who may be studying the Spanish language, will find this little volume of a mixed nature; containing extracts both of a serious and a lively turn. Near the close of the preliminary observations the best helps toward the attainment of a knowledge of the Spanish language are pointed out.

Another work in this class, but of different intention, is “*The Director, a Weekly Literary Journal*,” of which the first volume is completed. It contains: 1. Essays on subjects of Literature, the Fine Arts and Manners. 2. Bibliographiana. Accounts of rare and curious books, and of the Book sales in this country, from the close of the seventeenth century. 3. Royal Institution. Analysis of the Lectures delivered weekly. 4. British Gallery. Description of the principal Pictures exhibited for sale, with the names of the purchasers. The title of the Paper may possibly at first sight seem presumptuous; but the author offers himself “as a mere guide-post to direct the course of others to moral and intellectual excellence,” “resigning all claim to pre-eminence, and striving only to be the humble instrument of pointing out to his countrymen the path which leads to the temple of intellectual fame.” The most curious portion of the work, however, is that which is entitled *Bibliographiana*, written, we believe, by the Rev. Mr. DIBDIN. The following account of the sale of Archbishop Tillotson’s library, though by no means the most ample, we quote as a specimen:

4 O 2

“Arch-

"Archbishop Tillotson's Sale of Books succeeded that of Sir Charles Scarborough, in about two months (1695.) The Archbishop's books were sold, together with the Library of Mr. Seth Mountley Buncle, late Master of Mercers' School, London; consisting of Hebrew, Chaldaick, Syriack, Persick, and other Oriental books, with French, Italian, and Spanish, by C. Bateman.

"This collection was not so numerous as the preceding one, but was probably equally valuable. In the oriental languages there appear to have been upwards of two hundred volumes, including the works of Robertson and Ravis.

"The Archbishop was rich in old divinity; though the 'Critici Sacri,' would not now bring the sum of eleven pounds, nor 'L'Abbe's Sacro-Sancta Concilia,' twenty-eight pounds.

"The most curious article in English History was 'Prynne's Records,' a work published in the years 1666-68-70, in three folio volumes, and of which the fire of London consumed the greater part of the copies of the first volume. This volume alone has of late become so scarce, as to produce the sum of fifty pounds and upwards. At Mr. Daly's sale, in the year 1792, a copy of the three volumes, with the frontispiece complete, was sold for eighty pounds five shillings. The Archbishop's copy produced only eight pounds. See Oldy's "British Librarian," p. 11.

Among the Miscellanies also, must we class Mr. HORNE TOOKE's "*Letter to the Editor of the Times*," written in a plain perspicuous style: and relating to the events which preceded the duel between Sir Francis Burdett and Mr. Paull, rather than to the transaction itself. Mr. Paull is represented as having forced himself into the friendship of Sir Francis, with interested views: and is treated with a degree of severity which may be easily imagined by those who know Mr. Tooke's ability in wielding the pen. We hardly think it calculated, bitter as it is, to do injury to Mr. Paull.

Our respect for the verdict of an English Jury will hardly suffer us to confess that Mr. HARMER's "*Documents and Observations, tending to shew a Probability of the Innocence of John Holloway, and Owen Haggerty, who were executed as the Murderers of Mr. Steele*," possess an interest in their comments on the evidence, which we did not expect to meet with. As a composition, this pamphlet certainly does its author credit;

though we are still inclined to believe that the two men were guilty.

"*The Aphorisms of Sir Philip Sidney, with Remarks by Miss PORTER*," form a very interesting publication. The Aphorisms themselves are classed under different heads, and are either expanded or illustrated in the Remarks.

"*The Miseries of Human Life*," have been succeeded by such a swarm of similar nonsense, that although they are not endless, we do not think it necessary to say more than that their titles will be found in our monthly Catalogues. We are now presented with "*The Pleasures of Human Life*."

There is another work which we shall mention for the benefit of the historian, rather than the ordinary reader, in the "*Catalogue of the entire Collection of Manuscripts, on Paper and Vellum, of the late Marquis of Lansdowne*." It consists of two volumes, octavo. The first containing a detailed account of every individual article among the Burleigh papers. The second relating to the Shelburne papers only. Prefixed to the first volume is the following Preface, which we transcribe as affording a curious History of a Collection, which, instead of being dispersed by an auction, will now be deposited entire in the British Museum.

"The late Marquis of Lansdowne's Manuscripts unquestionably form one of the noblest and most valuable private collections in the kingdom. They were principally accumulated by the industry of the two celebrated collectors, Mr. James West, and Mr. Phillip Carteret Webb, whose favourite study and amusement it was, to procure and preserve all the original papers and records, which they could meet with, relative to the laws, customs, government, topography, and history, both civil and ecclesiastical, of England and Ireland.

"Mr. James West's Collection includes one hundred and fifteen volumes, in folio, of original Cecil papers, with materials sufficient to make up the number one hundred and twenty. These papers were bought in 1682, by Mr. Richard Chiswell, a stationer of London, of Sir William Hickes, the great grandson of Sir Michael Hickes, who was Secretary both to Lord Burleigh, and to his son the Earl of Salisbury. They were afterwards sold to Mr. John Strype of Low Leighton, of whose Executor they were purchased by Mr. West. These Manuscripts were scarcely, if at all known

known to Collins, Murdin, Jones, Birch, and other publishers of State-Papers; and yet, if we except those of the Earl of Hardwicke, no papers were more deserving of publication. In Mr. J. West's Collection, there are also Bishop Kennet's Historical Papers, which are very voluminous and valuable: likewise Surveys, and other materials for the histories of the different counties of England, particularly Sussex and Yorkshire, which were collected by Warburton, Anstis, and other antiquaries; also considerable treasures in the department of Family History and Pedigree, with Heraldical Collections of Le Neve, and most of the Heralds and Kings at Arms, back to the time of Glover and Camden; and many original Abbey Registers of great value, as Records in tythe causes, &c. and finally, every paper and volume that could be procured, relative to the office of Secretary to the Treasury, which Mr. West enjoyed for many years. His intimacy with the second Harley, Earl of Oxford, seems to have contributed much to enrich him in several of the aforementioned particulars.

"Mr. Ph. Carteret Webb's Collection, consisting chiefly of Parliamentary and Revenue History, contains numberless curious articles relative to the Chancery, Exchequer, and Treasury, the Spiritual and the Admiralty Courts, Wards and Livery, Star Chamber, &c. Among these are above thirty volumes of the Papers of Sir Julius Cæsar, Judge of the Admiralty in Queen Elizabeth's time, and Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Master of the Rolls in the time of James I. and Charles I. From them may be gained almost a complete history of the finances of those reigns, together with much secret information, and many curious unpublished state-papers, connected with the general history of those times. Sir Julius Cæsar's Manuscripts were exposed to sale many years ago at an auction, in St. Paul's Church Yard, where Mr. West and Mr. Webb became the principal purchasers of them. Mr. Webb, being Solicitor to the Treasury, was likewise attentive to collect all memorials of the business of that office down to his own time. Several volumes of his Manuscripts belonged to Lord Somers; and many, not the least curious relative to law business, were the property of Mr. Umfreville, who, having incurred an extraordinary expence in carrying his election, as Coroner for Middlesex, was

under the necessity of selling his Collection.

"In addition to the two Collections which have been already described, there are many volumes of copies, done at a great expence, from the Tower and Cottonian Records. Many of them are of singular value, as they preserve the contents of some originals which are obliterated, burnt, or lost. There is likewise a very considerable collection of original Letters to and from the Kings and Queens of England and Scotland, from the time of Henry VIII. to that of George II.

"For the extent of the present Catalogue, no apology is deemed necessary. If any manuscripts ever deserved a circumstantial Catalogue, these surely do. The trouble which it has cost, and the expence which it has incurred, are far outweighed by the single consideration, that a Catalogue of this description will not only improve the value of the property, but, it is hoped, confer an important and permanent advantage upon the Republic of Letters."

The "*Portraiture of Quakerism, as taken from a View of the Moral Education, Discipline, peculiar Customs, Religious Principles, Political and Civil Economy, and Character of the Society of Friends*," by Mr. CLARKSON, communicates a variety of curious particulars concerning the history and prevailing opinions of the Quakers; forming a Sequel to Barclay's Apology.

The first part of the "*Philosophical Transactions*," for 1807, contains only six articles. The first is the "Bakerian Lecture, on some Chemical Agencies of Electricity," by Humphry Davy, esq. The second is "On the Precession of the Equinoxes," by the Rev. Abraham Robertson. The third and fourth are by Everard Home, esq. containing an "Account of two Children, born with Cataracts in their Eyes;" and some "Observations on the Structure of the different Cavities which constitute the Stomach of the Whale." The fifth article is, "On the formation of the Bark of Trees," in a Letter from T. A. Knight, esq. to Sir Joseph Banks. The sixth, presents "An Investigation of the general Term of an important Series in the inverse Method of finite Differences." By the Rev. John Brinkley, D.D.

"*The Manual of Nobility*," by Mr. BANKS, contains the substance of the Peerage in a compressed form, referring to

to more copious works for Descents, Marriages, Issues, and other minute particulars. In point of style, we do not think it peculiarly elegant; but it appears to have a strong claim to notice on the ground of accuracy.

The original design of Dr. Sims's "*Inquiry into the Constitution and Economy of Man*," was to endeavour to give the reader who might be unacquainted with anatomy, a clear and useful conception of his nature as an intelligent, active, and conscientious creature; and of his death and future existence. In the prosecution of the plan, however, Dr. Sims found so many mischievous errors, founded upon and defended by wrong notions of human nature, offering themselves to view, that he did not think it right to pass them by without notice, and therefore concludes with a few strictures on them, and animadversions on that irreligious philosophy, whose pernicious doctrines have been spread over Europe and America, to the unspeakable injury of the religion, morals, and interests of the inhabitants. Dr. Sims is in his eighty-eighth year; we like his work and recommend it.

Strictly speaking, perhaps Mrs. Let's "*Pamphlet*" ought to have no place in a Retrospect of literature. The public, we believe, received an impression from the evidence which was adduced upon the trial of the Gordons, that is not likely either to be altered or removed by any defence of conduct at this time. We only wonder that such a defence should have appeared.

The last work that we shall mention is Dr. GREGORY'S "*New and Complete Dictionary of Arts and Sciences*." In this, the articles which relate to the several branches of natural and experimental Philosophy, and Natural History; the Chemical Articles, those on Antiquities, Trade, Commerce, Finance, History, and the Arts and Manufactures, are probably the best. The style it is written in is generally unexceptionable; in the scientific articles it is plain and clear, and in some, which admit of ornament, it rises to elegance. The plates which accompany this very useful work are well engraved.

HALF YEARLY RETROSPECT OF FRENCH LITERATURE.

HISTORY.

THE French at this present moment, unfortunately for the repose of Europe, appear to have turned their attention solely to war. We accordingly find that their historical compositions, instead of being directed, as formerly, to the purpose of tracing the means by which small states become great, and mighty empires in their turn dwindle into insignificance, are now chiefly employed in the details of their own exploits. Not content with their vernacular tongue, some of their writers have recurred to that of other nations for this purpose, and the language adopted by Sallust to narrate the particulars of the Jugurthine war, has recently been employed to portray the battle of Jena, and the campaigns in Germany.*

The following title is prefixed to another work, of which we shall hereafter, perhaps, furnish a more complete analysis.

"Campagne des Armées françaises, en

* We allude to a work just published, entitled "*Commentarii de Bello Germanico*," Didot, 1806-7.

Prusse, en Saxe, et en Pologne, sous le commandement de S. M. l'Empereur et Roi, en 1806."—The Campaign of the French Army in Prussia, Saxony, and Poland, under the Command of his Majesty the Emperor and King, &c. with the Portraits of the Emperor, Prince Murat, Mr. Fox, &c.

The first volume only of this work has been as yet published, which is accompanied with a plan of the battle of Jena, and adorned with copper-plates and six portraits. The next is to contain engravings of the King and Queen of Prussia, the Marshals de Mollendorff, Kalkreuth, Blucher, the Duke of Brunswick, and Mr. Fox, copied from full length pictures.

The Author boasts in his introduction, that he has not confined himself to a simple recital of the celebrated actions and famous marches of the French army, but has taken care to compare recent events with those that have occurred on the same theatre during former times, so that officers may be enabled to judge, and to decide for themselves. In addition to this, two celebrated men are brought into contact, and Frederick II. who himself wrote a History of the Seven Years

Years' War, is called forth, from the shades for the purpose of serving as a foil to Bonaparte I.

In addition to the correction of a variety of geographical mistakes, several authentic biographical notices are here introduced; and not only such military men as have perished in the field of battle, are introduced into this gallery of portraits, but also those who have survived the combat. The basis of the work is allowed to have been founded on the official relations printed by order of the French government. The whole of the bulletins are therefore to be published in a regular, chronological series; but these are to be accompanied with notes and explanations, so as to produce an ample commentary to the text.

"Thus," says the Author, "France, Europe, and our gallant warriors, to whom we now address this description of the most memorable campaign which military genius ever executed, will find in this work whatever is calculated to re-call these glorious events, and preserve the memory of the triumphs of one of the greatest monarchs who ever regulated the destiny of nations."

"Notice Historique sur l'Agriculture des Celtes et des Gaulois, &c."—An historical Notice relative to the Agriculture of the Celts and the Gauls, 8vo. forty-two pages.

M. de C. formerly a Prefect of the department of the Oise, is the author of this little work. He begins by observing, that his studies have always been directed towards the consideration of the national antiquities of his native soil, and adds that this taste has been fortunately favoured by a variety of circumstances, some of which are of a personal nature.

It is further stated by way of introduction, that the Greeks and Romans were very jealous of attributing any discoveries in the arts, sciences, &c. to those nations styled barbarous by them. Notwithstanding this, M. de C. is at some pains to prove, that the ancient Gauls invented the art of enameling, and were the first to gild the harness and bridles of their horses, &c.

In respect to agriculture, it is contended, that every word contained in the modern technical vocabulary is derived from the vernacular tongue, not a single term having been borrowed from any foreign language. He at the same time insists, that his native country is the best within the confines of the habitable earth, as may be gathered from the following exulting description.

"Gaul, by its position on the globe, is most advantageously situate, being placed between those hyperborean regions which constrain the faculties of man, and those southern climates which enfeeble them. By means of the north, and north-west winds, it regains all that the summer heats have deprived it of. Defended by the seas, by the Rhine, the Alps, and the Pyrenees, rich in wine and in corn; abounding with inhabitants, with warriors, with engineers, with soldiers prompt as lightning, patient under privations, estimating life at a high rate, and yet sacrificing it for a sprig of laurel; replete with men of genius, able senators, and profound politicians, Gaul was and ever will be, at all times, and under every species of domination, the mistress and the example of the world. This assertion is not the dictate of a prophetic vision: it is the result of a calculation, arising out of the union of strength and situation."

At the conclusion, the author combats the opinion so generally received, that the lys or lilly was only known to the ancestors of the present French as an instrument of war, worn at the ends of their lances: he maintains, that it was also respected as a symbol of purity and nobility. This subject leads him to the "language of flowers," employed in the gallantry of a former age, and he presents his readers with a vocabulary of a new kind: in fine, the author seems ambitious to prove that erudition may be accompanied with the graces, and that it is possible for a fine imagination to embellish any subject.

"Science de la Histoire, contenant le Systeme général des Connoissances à acquérir avant d'étudier l'Histoire, et la Methode à suivre quand on se livre à ce genre d'Etude, développée par Tableaux synoptiques."—The Science of History; containing the general system of knowledge necessary to be acquired before any one commences the study of it, and also the method to be followed in this pursuit: the whole developed by means of synoptical tables, by N. CHANTREAU, professor of history in the military school established at Fontainebleau, member of several literary societies, translator and continuator of Blair's Chronological Tables, dedicated to his Majesty the Emperor and King, while First Consul, 3 vols. in quarto.

Of all the pursuits that contribute to the instruction of mankind, that of history is undoubtedly one of the most useful,

ful; as well as most agreeable. Accordingly, in all countries, and in all languages, we find a multitude of elementary books on this subject; it must nevertheless be acknowledged that M. Chantreau is in the right, where he maintains that too little importance is attached to this study in the public schools, and that such a general neglect must inevitably introduce a vicious method of teaching. It is for the express purpose of remedying this that he has undertaken the present work, and endeavoured to discountenance those puerile methods but too frequently adopted. Hitherto history, he observes, has been regarded but as a secondary branch of instruction, and a mere object of memory: he thinks however, that it is a subject that calls for and demands the severest exercise of the judgment.

To teach it in conformity to his notions, a variety of preliminary knowledge becomes necessary, so as to enable youth to study with advantage. He has accordingly divided his work into two portions, the one of which he denominates the Notional, and the other the Methodical part. The former is subdivided into chronology, geography, and civil organization, which form so many separate subjects. The course of chronology constitutes four sections.

1. Mathematical Chronology, containing the notions relative to the division of time for the civil and religious usages of nations.

2. Documental, or Historical Chronology, as necessary for the support of facts.

3. Comparative Chronology, presenting the calculations relative to the reciprocal æras adopted by nations.

4. Chronology of Facts, or the principal events of ancient and modern history, properly arranged.

The present work forms the most extensive article on this subject that has hitherto appeared; it commences at the most remote epoch, and finishes with the peace of Amiens, in 1802; thus embracing fifty-eight centuries, or the space of 5,800 years. The mode here adopted is to divide the subject into three different columns, the first of which presents the dates, the second the facts, and the third the historical sources or authorities, whence the confirmation has been drawn.

In respect to ancient history, the Chronology of Usher has been followed, and in regard to modern times, the authority

of the work entitled, *l'Art de vérifier les Dates*, has been adopted. The epoch of the Olympic games serves as a landmark to the Grecian history; while that of Rome is reckoned from the foundation of the city. The *Hegira* is used for the history of the Saracens and all the Mahomedan nations; and in respect to France, the division of time is so adjusted, as to make the Revolution the chief æra.

Adopting a different system from the writers who have preceded him, M. Chantreau has divided biographical chronology into two sections; the one political, and the other literary: in the former of these is contained the sovereigns, the generals, the statesmen, &c. while the second presents the philosophers, the historians, the men of letters, the lawyers, the mathematicians, and the artists.

This is a most laborious work, and has evidently occupied a large portion of the author's time; but whatever may be its traits, it is too voluminous for translation.

"*Memoires et Lettres du Maréchal de Tessé, contenant des Anecdotes et des Facts historiques,*" &c.—The Memoirs and Letters of Marshal de Tessé; containing historical facts and anecdotes hitherto unknown, relative to certain portions of the reigns of Louis XIV. and XV. 2 vols. 8vo.

The late Marshal de Tessé was considered by his contemporaries as a man of talents; he was accordingly employed to negotiate with several different courts, and kept up a direct correspondence with Louis XIV. As he was acquainted with all the celebrated men of his day, he was of course enabled to estimate their respective merits, and thus at once amuse and instruct posterity. His life precedes his correspondence, &c.

"*Les Anténors modernes, ou Voyages de Christine et de Casimir en France, pendant le Règne de Louis XIV. esquisse des mœurs générales du 17^e. siècle, d'après les Mémoires des deux Ex-souverains.*"—The modern Anténors, or Travels of Christine and Casimir in France, during the Reign of Louis XIV; containing a sketch of the manners of the 17th century, &c. continued by HURT, bishop of Avranches.

"The subject of this work," says the author in his preface, "is extracted from the following neglected passage in the younger Racine,* while treating of the age of Louis XIV."

* *Reflexions sur la Poesie.*

"It appears as if all the great poets, the great painters, great orators, the great philosophers, &c. had determined on a place and time of rendezvous, in order that they might meet, and dispute together, for the palm of glory and perfection in each particular branch of knowledge.

"According both to the order of dates, and the order of geniuses, Descartes ought to be placed at the head of the numerous assemblage of men, who have rendered that age so celebrated throughout the world. What a multitude of illustrious names is contained in this list! Petau, Nicole, Arnaud, La Rochefoucauld, La Bruyere, Le Sueur, Le Poussin, Le Brun, Mignard, Jouvenet, Girardon, Lully, Rohault, Mallebranche, Flechier, Massillon, Corneille, and his rival Moliere, La Fontaine, Boileau, &c. Many other famous characters might also be added, so as to comprehend the youthful days of Rousseau. The space of time during which all these appeared was far from being extensive, for a single man had beheld them all; and, indeed, M. Huet, so illustrious himself on account of his acquirements, had witnessed Descartes early in life, and died ten years after Boileau."

We are informed, however, that it is not a gallery of portraits, comprehending the great personages in question, that the author of the *Anténors* intends to describe; he resolves, indeed, that both men and events shall occupy the places in his work, which chance has assigned them on the theatre of history; but he is chiefly desirous to designate three grand epochs, and describe three personages appertaining to the seventeenth century.

"Christina, Queen of Sweden (says he) resigned her crown precisely at the moment when Louis XIV. was about to obtain possession of his. The daughter of Gustavus met with the Prince of Condé at Brussels, and the Cardinal de Retz at Rome. It was in the society of these grand actors during the troubles of the minority, that Christina became initiated in the mysteries of war, of gallantry, of politics; in fine, acquired a complete knowledge of all the intrigues, and of all the parties, that had divided France. She herself, at length, repaired to that country, for the express purpose of assisting at the festivals, the amours, &c. of the times.

"Casimir, who had been desirous of espousing Christina, when he was King of Poland, resided in France also at the epoch of the grandeur of Louis

XIV. It is well known that he became Abbot of St. Germain des Prés, and was enamoured with a woman whose rank in society was far from being estimable.

His unostentatious life, and simple character, formed a marked contrast with the prying inquietude and petulant vivacity of Christina. He observed, and is here made to describe, the physical and moral state of Paris at that epoch, when pleasure and the fine arts divided his nights and his days.

"The Bishop of Avranches (the celebrated Huet), who had lived in intimacy both with Christina and Casimir, witnessed all the grandeur and all the humiliation of Louis XIV. whom he survived six years. He sighs here over the misfortunes of the state; he paints too in the most lively colours the odious and impolitic revocation of the Edict of Nantz.

"Thus are contrasted both the shades of epochs, and the tints of characters. The first æra comprehends the licentiousness of the Fronde; the second, voluptuous and brilliant, is consecrated to the developement of the arts; the third, sombre and obscure, exhibits every thing delightfully extinguished in bigotry. The character of each particular personage seems to be appropriated to these different scenes: we accordingly behold shining in succession, Christina and her follies; Casimir and epicurism; Huet and jesuitism.

"Anquetil was the first to furnish the example of the composition of an interesting work, by means of fragments extracted from contemporary writers. We have followed a similar track, but yet have omitted, like him, to disclose the name of the author of a mere compilation. It would have been far more easy, perhaps, to have imitated the present writers of romances, by infusing into the language of the personages brought forward our own particular manner of thinking and expressing ourselves. But as this would be to throw a modern drapery over an antique figure, a different mode has been adopted; throughout the whole of this work, therefore, the costume is rigorously observed, and the author has made those whom he has introduced both speak and act precisely as they would have spoken and acted in their relative situations.

"In short, this is not an historical romance. The author has been desirous to open a new career, and has endeavoured, at the same time, to accelerate the progress of the art itself, by placing fiction

as the frame, and truth as the picture within it. The result of this plan, and this combination, is an historical drama, so that an addition is thus made on the score of interest, while nothing is lost in point of exactness."

The character given of Louis XIV. is rather just than flattering. His life is divided into three grand epochs. His youth is represented as having been spent in follies of every kind, which, in general, were no less culpable than ridiculous. During the period of maturity, he is depicted as surrounded with all the splendour of power and of glory; while towards the end of his career, he is considered as having fallen into a degrading state of dotage and hypocrisy. At length, he is made to expire overwhelmed with misfortunes, bereaved of fame, a prey to sorrow, and subjected to the most terrible reverses of fortune.

Christina, who is the first personage introduced upon the scene, immediately after her abdication, arrives in France, at a momentous period, that of the civil wars. She has an interview with Condé in the lines of Arras; there also she meets with the principal partisans of that prince during the troubles of the Fronde, and by means of them becomes acquainted with the most interesting events of so singular an epoch. This naturally produces the portraits of several of the most remarkable personages, as well as a variety of details relative to the manners and the opinions of that day.

Christina does not appear to occupy a very modest part in these annals, for she seems to throw open her arms to every handsome man she meets with. She, however, to do her justice, does not confine herself solely to the orgies of gallantry, but enters into the spirit of all the troubles that occurred during the regency, or, as it is here termed, the *reign of Mazarine*. On hearing the recital of those events, her ex-majesty exclaims, "What a court! what a mixture of frivolity and crime! It appears as if, during those unhappy times, every species of wickedness had been practised: it seems to me as if the poniard of Machiavel had been wreathed with garlands. It is a well known fact, and every one must own it, that the Prince, the Minister, the Coadjutor, conspired their reciprocal assassinations in succession. Blood has flowed more than once in the streets, amidst songs and music, and it has sometimes happened, that those who have unchained the populace, have themselves been in

danger of becoming their victims: this was the case in respect both to the Coadjutor, and even Condé himself. The last was on the point of being twice carried off, particularly during an affair of gallantry; and he was indebted solely to the pity of Rochefoucault for his life on another occasion, as, but for him, he would have been assassinated in parliament."

Her majesty, after this, addresses her audience relative to the memorable revolutions which, nearly at the same time, agitated the whole of Europe. She is also at some pains to reveal the powerful, but hitherto secret, motives, that had induced her to quit the throne.

"Gentlemen (says she), during an interview with Boutteville and Coligny, when my own had the honour to be reckoned among the crowned heads, and particularly some time after having sent the Count de la Gardie in quality of ambassador into France, I began to entertain not a few serious reflections. I considered, that like the volcanoes, the eruptions of which are felt in so many places at the same time, the states of Europe were then agitated by a revolutionary fever, that exhibited all the symptoms of contagion. In fact, it was nearly during the same period that the sanguinary Massaniello, seconded by your Duke de Guise, reigned at Naples by means of the most execrable terror; that the English cut off the head of Charles I. and that the French were not only eager in their endeavours to drive away their king, but actually burnt the effigy of his minister, for whose murder they had already offered a sum of money."

Coligny.—"The flame, in short, was universal; for at that very period the Turks massacred their Sultan Ibrahim; the Algerines their Dey; the Moguls overwhelmed Hindostan by means of civil wars; the Chinese were conquered by the Tartars; and, to complete the whole, returning to Europe, a conspiracy was entered into against the life of the King of Spain."

Christina.—"This proceeded entirely from the spirit of independence that had discovered itself during the preceding age. I myself recollect the moment when the train was set, the match was lighted, and the North was on the point of being devoured by similar flames. It was then——"

Coligny.—"That you preferred a private condition to the perils of sovereignty."

Christina,

Christina, on this, blushed, and concluded as follows:

"I have always thought that this singular connection of events did not originate in chance alone, and I have been more than once tempted to believe in the existence of a tenebrous association, which sports at the same time with both governments and people, and which to a profound audacity unites unbounded means."

It is well known that the Swedish queen possessed a taste for literature and the fine arts, and protected both while on the throne: nay, when she quitted it, it was under the pretext that her resignation arose solely from a wish to dedicate herself entirely to the study and cultivation of both. Accordingly, during her travels, her majesty did not confine her enquiries to war, and the art of government; she also went in search of men of learning, and artists. These well known facts furnished the author with the means of treating his readers with several chapters replete with interest.

Accordingly we are presented with the result of an interview with the celebrated painter Poussin, in the course of which Christina and the Cardinal Colonna admire and describe the principal works of that great master. We are next furnished with a dialogue with Casimir, relative to the state of astronomy in France; then follows an account of Marseilles, recounted by the historian of that ancient city.

In the workshop of Puget an interesting discussion takes place relative to *ideal beauty* in sculpture, and the rules observed by the ancient statuaries.

"The Greeks (says this artist to Christina) have not created those fine proportions which you admire in their statues; and the ideal system was to them entirely unknown. It may be useful, I think, to remind you of the means afforded by the manners and institutions of that day, in respect to sublime models; it was in the exactitude of nature that they discovered those fine symmetrical connections, which established a perfect uniformity. Observe, that all their statues were of different proportions: those of Venus are not those of Diana. Apollo does not resemble Bacchus. It is evident that a man of agility has not the same form as a strong man; the one is pliable throughout, while the inferior part of his body is longer than the superior; the other is of a more square construction. The an-

cient *athletes*, who were daily exercising themselves, presented models which are no longer to be found, unless it be in those countries where they still retain the same games, &c. as the Greeks."

Christina.—"But the fine male and female heads which those statues present, are, as I suppose, of their creation?"

Puget.—"No more than their bodies; they are mere portraits: and if they had invented, instead of imitating, they would not have been at this day our masters."

"That Jupiter of Phidias, of which the ancients have boasted so much, would not have obtained the admiration of such a people if he had not resembled a being superior to mortals."

Puget.—"You have seen at Marseilles a considerable number of the countrymen of Phidias. You have, doubtless, perceived also, the difference that there is between them and us in respect to beauty and dignity. Very well! those very Greeks to whom I allude are simple merchants, subjugated by the Turks: imagine for a moment, what a fine character would be imprinted on the countenance of a Miltiades or a Pericles, a magistrate deciding in the tribunal of justice, after having vanquished at Marathon: conceive whatsoever of beauty the climate could confer; whatsoever dignity could arise out of bravery, independence, and eminent employments, and you will then be convinced that the Jupiter of Phidias was imitated after nature, in a country where the artist could be at no loss to find sublime models.

"In addition to this (adds he), they always took care to make choice of the most favourable moment. Every living thing has its beginning, its middle, and its end. The beauty of a youth, of a full grown person, and of an old man, hath each its proper and peculiar period, and this was the precise epoch that the Grecian artists made choice of. Permit me also here to intimate to you the means that an able artist may recur to. Imagine to yourself a very well made man, for instance, one of whose limbs or features is inferior to the other parts of his body. This imperfection, which can never escape the prying eye of a skilful observer, is by him instantly corrected. I do not mean to say that he absolutely invents a fine part, which is wanting in his model, but that which is beautiful indicates how to amend whatsoever is defective; and he gives to his statue that conformity which composes the *beautiful*.

"I will furnish you with an example of this. You have sometimes seen two portraits of the same person, the one very admirable, the other very inferior to the original, and yet both possessing a resemblance. It is the very same of a statue: that which constitutes superior talent is the faculty of being able to imitate whatever is supremely beautiful, and avoid whatever is imperfect. The Greeks were so imbued with this principle, that you will find the same impression even on those productions which do not rise above mediocrity. Be assured that if they had gone beyond the truth, they would have experienced the common destiny of falsehood.

"There are several Greek women in this country, but their style of beauty is entirely different from that of our females. Those you see at Marseilles, will convey a just idea of Juno, of Minerva, and of all the divinities of Homer: he, too, painted after nature.

"We have several villages in the immediate neighbourhood of the city just alluded to, consisting of a single family. They are the descendants of its founders; visit them, and you will there find those fine heads which you have admired on Greek statues. But two years since, I could have enabled you to speak to the Venus of Medicis. The very agreeable smile which characterises that piece of sculpture, constituted her habitual expression. Her straight nose, small nostrils, &c. perfectly resembled the same features in the Venus; and it may not be amiss to remark here, that they are never found in any other statue. By becoming a mother, her features are altered, and an appearance of care has replaced that gaiety which conferred so many charms.

"During the time I resided at Rome, I often beheld a young man who, according to the judgment of all the world, resembled Apollo. I was desirous to behold him naked, and had the good fortune to see him one day on the banks of the Tiber: it was Apollo himself, whom I beheld both swimming and walking."

With a view of instructing the queen and the reader, in respect to the state of French literature, at the commencement of the eighteenth century, as well as of the characters of writers of all kinds, who at that period enjoyed so high a reputation; several of those great men who were the contemporaries of Christina, are brought forward. Corneille, Pascal, Mezerai, Lingendes, Patru, appear on the

stage as it were, while Pelisson exhibits a good specimen of the Parnassus of that day. It is well known, that Ménage was accustomed every Tuesday to have an assembly at his house, consisting of nearly all the men of letters in Paris. There they held academic sittings, which were denominated *Mercuriales*, and Ménage addresses the *procès verbaux* of them to the Queen of Sweden. The aged Colletet, during one of these meetings, is supposed to open the business of the evening with the eulogium of Balzac: but the feebleness of his voice not permitting him to finish the panegyric, a crowd of poets hasten to supply his place, by reading their respective works. The first who presents himself is the energetic Scudery, with his *Alaric* in his hand:

"It is thus," says he, "that Alaric expresses his passion for queen Amalasonta:

"Connaissez-moi, Madame, et puis connaissez-vous.

Vous trouverez en vous une prudence extrême;

Vous trouverez en moi la fidélité même.

Vous trouverez en vous cent attraits tout-puissans;

Vous trouverez en moi cent désirs innocens.

Vous trouverez en vous une beauté parfaite;

Vous trouverez en moi l'aise de ma défaite;

Vous trouverez en moi, vous trouverez en vous,

Et le cœur le plus ferme et l'objet le plus doux."

"Decide!" exclaims he, on the following portrait of a nymph:

"Au milieu du bassin vit une néréide
Qui tâcha d'essuyer son poil toujours humide,
Et qui, semblant presser ce poil et long et beau,
En fait toujours sortir de l'écume et de l'eau."

He next in an elevated tone, recites the following epitaph on Radagoise, who had been killed during a combat in the Alps:

"Ici git un guerrier qui trouva peu d'égaux,
Car son cœur fut plus grand que ces murs ne sont hauts."

The two following lines, of the same poem, were greatly applauded:

"Est-il rien de plus doux, pour un cœur
plein de gloire;
Que la paisible nuit qui suit une victoire?"

The verses that follow, are by Patru, and they have often been imitated in English:

"Je songeais, cette nuit, que de maux con-
sumé,
Côte à côte d'un pauvre on m'avait inhumé,
Et

Et que n'en pouvant plus souffrir le voisinage,
En mort de qualité, je lui tins ce langage :
Retire-toi, coquin, va pourrir loin d'ici,
Il ne t'appartient pas de m'approcher ainsi.
Coquin ! ce me dit-il, d'une arrogance ex-
trême,

Va chercher tes coquins ailleurs ; coquin toi-
même ;

Ici, tous sont égaux, je ne te dois plus rien :
Je suis sur mon fumier comme toi sur le tien."

Here were recited the lines that follow,
by Tristram.

"Ebloui de l'éclat de la grandeur mondaine,
Je me flattai toujours d'une espérance vaine,
Faisant le chien couchant auprès d'un grand
seigneur,

Je me vis toujours pauvre ; et tâchai de pa-
raître,

Je vécu, dans la peine, attendant le bonheur,
Et mourus sur un coffre en attendant mon
maître."

We shall conclude with four lines by
Scudery, relative to Job, and an epi-
grammatic sonnet, by Sarrasin, on Eve :

"Je vous le dis en vérité,
Le destin de Job est étrange,
D'être toujours persécuté,

Tantôt par un démon et tantôt par un ange."

"Lorsqu'Adam vit cette jeune beauté
Faites pour lui d'une main immortelle ;
S'il l'aima fort ; elle, de son côté,

Dont bien nous prit, ne lui fut pas cruelle.

Cher Charleval, alors, en vérité,

Je crois qu'il fut une femme fidelle ;

Mais, comme quoi ne l'aurait-elle été ?

Elle n'avait qu'un seul homme avec elle.

Or, en cela, nous nous trompons tous deux ;

Car, bien qu'Adam fût jeune et vigoureux ;

Bien fait de corps, et d'esprit agréable ;

Elle aima mieux, pour s'en faire conter,

Piéter l'oreille aux fleurettes du Diable,

Que d'être femme et ne pas coqueter."

"Histoire Générale de Belgique, de-
puis la Conquête de César ; par M. DE-
WEZ."—A general History of Belgium
posterior to the Conquest of Cæsar ; by
M. Dewez, 4 vols.

This work, is divided into epochs,
under each of which we are pre-
sented with some interesting period of the
Belgic history. It would afford the gene-
rality of our readers but little pleasure,
to trace the uninteresting feuds of a bar-
barous people ; we shall therefore recur
to a portion of this work, when the na-
tion in question began to exhibit the ap-
pearance of order and stability.

The seventh epoch, comprehends the
house of Louvain. Godefroy called *le*
Barbu, the seventh in the general succe-
sion of the Dukes of Lower Lorraine, and
the first in the dynasty of the Counts de

Louvain, was a brave and generous chief.
After being deprived of his dignity by the
emperor Lothaire, he possessed sufficient
courage to struggle against an unjust ex-
ertion of power, and he was enabled to
preserve his authority over a portion of
his dominions, until Conrad had ascen-
ded the imperial throne.

"That prince immediately restored
him a title, which he ought never to have
been deprived of. An anecdote of him
is here quoted, that surpasses all eulo-
gium, if we but recollect the barbarity of
the age, during which this noble example
occurred.

"The wife of Henri de Limbourg,
against whom he made war, had fallen
into his hands. The magnanimous vic-
tor not only respected her misfortunes
and her honor, but sent her back to the
husband. What could be more noble, or
more heroic, in the vaunted continence
of the first of the Scipios in Spain, or the
delicate attention of Alexander towards
the consort and the daughters of Darius,
at the period they were his captives ?
Alas, it is too true, that in the distribu-
tion of praise, history, like private indivi-
duals, sacrifices but too much to the
splendour of conquests, and the captiva-
tion of renown."

There was nothing remarkable, either
in the administration of Godefroy II. or
Godefroy III. We cannot however for-
bear to admire the ferocious firmness of
the latter of these, when at the age of
nineteen, being unable to persuade
Thierry, Count of Flanders, of the injustice
of his claim to superiority, he drew his
sword, and after candidly allowing that
his tutors had promised he should become
his vassal, he placed the weapon in the
hands of the latter, addressing him
at the same time as follows: "I am
ready and willing to permit you to pierce
my heart with this sword ; but I can ne-
ver consent to pay homage to a count
for so illustrious a Duchy !"

Henry I. rendered himself "horribly
famous," after the engagement at Neu-
ville-sur-Mehaigne, where he was over-
come by Baudouin count de Hainault and
Flanders, by the sacking of Liege, which
he abandoned during a whole day to all
the miseries of pillage and of massacre.
The people of Liege, in their turn, cut the
Brabanters to pieces in the *plaines de*
Steppes, and cruelly abused their victory
by immolating all the fugitives that fell
into their hands. Equally uncertain, and
cowardly in his politics, the Duke for-
sook Philip Augustus, king of France, his
father-

father-in-law, to embrace the party of the emperor Otho, with whom he was defeated at Bouvines, on the 7th of July 1214.

Soon after this, he abandoned Otho also, to whom he had given his daughter in marriage, and then declared himself on the side of Frederick, his competitor for the empire: "Thus equally without benefit, and without glory, Henry I. was prodigal of the blood and the wealth of his subjects; Henry II. on the other hand, was constantly occupied for their repose and their happiness. This prince, who suppressed the odious law of mortmain, for which his memory was long blessed; exhibited a singular instance of modesty, having actually refused the offer of the imperial crown.

Henry III. was the first who assumed the title of Duke of Brabant, towards the year 1250. One part of his last will is very remarkable, as it thus becomes evident, that his mind was imbued with a singular portion of humanity towards a class of beings, but little regarded in that age.

"By an express article in it, he enfranchised from extraordinary impositions, and every species of exaction, that numerous class of *serfs*, or bondmen, who were then, and still continue in some barbarous countries to be, attached to the soil, sequestered from civil society, and degraded from all the claims and privileges of men."

Alice, the widow of Henry III. held the reins of government, during the minority of her children. The eldest of her sons, solemnly yielded the sovereignty of Lower Lorraine, to a younger brother, who became John I. At this period, we are informed of the pitiful grounds of a destructive war with the people of Liege: it originated in the theft of a domestic animal, not worth a guinea, and was attended with the destruction of thousands on both sides! The author seizes this opportunity to exclaim: "*Quidquid delirant reges, plectuntur Achivi!*"

A little after this, the succession of Limbourg produced an important struggle between John and Renaud Count of Gueldres, who disputed his territories with him. The quarrel was terminated at Woringen; and the duchy of Limbourg, in consequence of the events of that day was reunited to Brabant.

During the time of John II. Philip le Bel, king of France, in order to punish the temerity of Guy, Count of Flanders, who had formed an alliance against him,

with Edward I. king of England, obtained possession of his territories under the pretext of *confiscation*. On this the Flemings took the field, beat the French at Courtray, and entered into a league with Duke John, who had made a common cause with them. Their efforts were at first sufficiently prosperous, but having been defeated at Mons-en-Puelle, Philip dictated the terms of the peace at Achier-sur-Orange, in the month of June, 1305.

John II. being desirous to reform the abuses which had crept into the administration, at least as far as was in his power, caused the lords and the deputies of the cities of Brabant to be assembled, about a month anterior to his death. It was this assembly that passed the celebrated regulations, called the laws of Cortenberg, because they had met in the town of that name.

John III. was forced to take part in that long and disastrous contest, carried on by Edward IV. of England, against Philip de Valois. He was succeeded by his daughter Jean, and Wenceslaus, her husband. During the war that succeeded soon after, a battle was fought at Sausfiet, in the Marquisate of Antwerp, at which period, we are told, bombs were first brought into use. This occurred in 1356.

The 8th epoch comprehends the house of Burgundy. The government of John IV. was sufficiently tempestuous, for he had not only to combat with his own subjects, but also with his own spouse, Jaqueline, Countess of Hainault, who had separated from him, and married another. It ought to be remembered to his honour, that he founded the University of Louvain in 1426: it was his intention to fix it at Brussels, and this would accordingly have taken place, had it not been for the folly of the magistrates.

Under Philip, his brother and successor, the inhabitants of Ghent and Bruges were so powerful, that it was found difficult on the part of their sovereign to subject and punish them for their frequent revolts. His son Charles, Count de Charolois, entered into the famous combination, known under the name of (*ligue du bien public*), the league for the public good; having for a pretext the reformation of the state and the advantage of the people.

Soon after this we find, that the inhabitants of Dinant having revolted, Philip le Bon caused eight hundred of them to be precipitated into the Meuse, where they

they were drowned, by the light of the flames that consumed their country.

VOYAGES AND TRAVELS.

"Voyage à la Partie Orientale de la Terre-Ferme de l'Amérique méridionale, fait pendant les années 1801, 1802, 1803, et 1804."—A Voyage to the Eastern Portion of the Terra Firma of South America, performed during the Years 1801, 1802, 1803, and 1804; by F. DE PONS, 3 vols. 8vo. At a period like this, when the eyes of Europe are steadfastly fixed on the possessions of Spain on the transatlantic continent, a work of this kind cannot fail to prove interesting. The author has accordingly seized the present opportunity, not only to detail the information gleaned by himself, but to expose the mistakes, misapprehensions, and ridiculous speculations of others.

M. De Pons accordingly commences his introduction with an account of the principal errors hitherto propagated relative to the geography of the country; he then exhibits the plan of his own work, which is divided into eleven chapters. The first is dedicated to the discovery of the country, and the conquests formerly made by the Spaniards; the second includes every thing relative to the climate, the soil, the productions of the earth, the forests, the lakes, the mountains, the rivers, and the ports. The third includes the population, both European and African; while the fourth conveys an idea of the indigenous inhabitants, "improperly termed Indians."

After this, we proceed to a detailed account of every thing relative to the government and administration: this occupies the fifth chapter. The 6th contains a sketch of the ecclesiastical jurisdiction; the seventh relates to agriculture and the territorial products; the eighth treats of commerce; the ninth of the finances; the 10th of the state of the towns, and the adjoining territories which are dependent on them; and finally, in the 11th, we have a description of Spanish Oroonoua and Guyana.

The author himself presents his readers with a most excellent analysis of the whole, in a preliminary discourse; but it is perhaps a mistaken policy to enter into particulars, anterior to the body of the work; while on the contrary, had this paper followed it, it would not only have exhibited the design, and served to engrave the chief subjects still more forcibly on the mind, but also conveyed a just idea of the intentions of the writer.

The history of the discovery and the conquest of the Terra Firma, as well as of the first establishments made by the original adventurers, is written with great care and attention. The author is not imposed upon, either by the recitals or the authority of Oviedo; and he is at great pains to discuss his principles, and in some instances to overturn his reasoning. It was the hope of gold, and of gold alone, that engaged the Spaniards to encounter so many toils and difficulties, to obtain possession of this country: but every attempt to realize this speculation, as we shall speedily see, hath hitherto proved ineffectual.

"It affords me pleasure to think," says M. de Pons, "that none of these provinces have ever enjoyed, and probably are not ever destined to enjoy, the short-lived reputation arising from the possession of mines. They have been recompensed however, more than an hundred fold, by the abundant, precious, and inexhaustible productions of a country, which, both on account of its extent and its fertility, seems destined to be the constant asylum of happiness. This portion of the earth, indeed, will continue to flourish, when those colonies that yield only the precious metals, present nothing but misery, ruins, and frightful excavations, the sad memorials of their past opulence."

According to the best accounts that could be obtained by M. de Pons, the population of the Spanish provinces of Venezuela, Maracaibo, Cumana, and Guyana, amounts to 728,000, out of which the whites constitute no more than two-tenths, while the slaves amount to three; the descendants of those who have been enfranchised to four, and the Indians to the remainder.

"These fine provinces were at first entirely neglected, merely because they were deficient in respect to the precious metals. The court of Madrid afterwards, when their value began to be better understood, opposed a variety of obstacles to the progress of their population, by restraining the permission to repair to, or settle in them. Its system in this point of view, is very different from that of other states, who contribute not a little to their own comforts, by leaving such an opening to all those who wish to repair to the plantations, that for a long time past those establishments have been considered as so many depositories, into which the mother country empties all its filth and impurity, instead of considering

sidering them as so many asylums of pleasure and of happiness.

"In stead of sending thither, as was formerly the case in France, all those whose conduct was equivocal, or whose offences were commuted into transportation; Spain, either more just or more tender in respect to her colonies, without being more fortunate than other nations, continues to employ all her attention for the express purpose of maintaining good morals, of preventing the germs of corruption from being imported from Europe. Since the 7th of August, 1584, no one has been able to obtain permission to repair to the West Indies, without an authentic testimonial of a sober life, and good morals. It is not long since a person, who had a passport for any particular province, was prohibited from repairing to another without a new permission signed by the King; he was accordingly obliged to proceed directly to the place of his destination."

We are assured that emigration from Spain to the Terra Firma, is not frequent; but on the other hand, when adventurers repair thither, they seldom return. The Biscayans and Catalonians, are the only persons in whose bosoms the love of their country is never extinguished; accordingly they generally revisit their native soil. As to the inhabitants of the Canaries, they transport themselves frequently to America, where their industry, and their attention, render them more prosperous than the other subjects of the King of Spain.

While treating of the slaves, M. de Pons informs us, that the number in the Captainship of the Caraccas amounts to two hundred and eighteen thousand. He reproaches their masters with neglect, in respect to this unhappy portion of the human species; but on the other hand, he launches into an eulogium on the excellence of the juridical institutions.

"Every where else, (says he) the slave is condemned for life, to suffer under the tyranny of an unjust master; among the Spaniards, he may at any time relieve himself from the dominion of a man who abuses his right of property. The law, indeed, insists that he should declare the motives; but this beneficent system of jurisprudence is satisfied with complaints of the slightest kind. The most trifling allegation, whether true or false, is sufficient to force the master to sell the slave who does not choose any longer to serve him. In addition to this,

he cannot exact an arbitrary price for his liberty, and the maximum is regulated at three hundred piastres,* whatever may be the talents of the slave; if any infirmities have deteriorated the value, the judge makes the necessary deduction. Every bondman is allowed to purchase his freedom, at prime cost, while the master is not permitted to chastize him so as to make the blood flow, without exposing himself to punishment. In fine, the governors nominate an advocate, who is to support the rights and the claims of the slaves. This institution demonstrates the wisdom and the humanity of the legislature. How many calamities would the colonies of other European nations have avoided, if similar laws had been promulged by them! The Spaniards, hitherto so frequently accused of cruelty, are nevertheless the very people, whose code is the most sage, and whose customs are the most worthy of being imitated."

We are further informed, that out of the seven hundred and twenty-eight thousand persons, contained in the Captainship of the Caraccas, the number of those enfranchised, amounts to 219,000. "This is the less astonishing, (adds he) as the Spaniards consider the liberation of their slaves, among the most meritorious acts enjoined by their religion."

We now come to the Indians, who are described as being in general more attached to their mothers, than their fathers. The Goahiros, are represented as the most ferocious, as well as the most perfidious, of all the neighbouring tribes. They are cannibals, and if by chance any vessel is cast ashore by a tempest, they constantly murder the crew and feast on human flesh. M. de Pons offers up his vows for the subjugation of this people, in order that they might be obliged to renounce the customs and habits of wild beasts.

It is far otherwise with the civilized Indians; and the Spaniards, who are fully sensible of the difference, have not only renounced all the rigorous measures hitherto adopted by their ancestors, but now actually treat them with paternal kindness.

"But few authors, (we are told) have rendered that justice to the Spanish government which is due to it, relative to the manner in which the Indians are regulated. The Abbé Raynal, that ar-

* The piastre is a dollar, but the text mentions "trois cents piastres fortes."—Ed.

dent and profound writer, more enthusiastic than impartial, more vehement than exact, presents his readers with an account of the present state of the Indians, which is not in the least applicable to any of the Spanish Colonies, and still less to the Caraccas. Robertson, more of an historian, although also a philosopher, has approximated nearer to the truth, without having entirely developed it: for the Spanish laws are still more favourable to this race, than he has allowed.

In respect to the general system by which the "Council of the Indies" regulates the affairs of the New World, the author is lavish in his praises. This "respectable tribunal, to which the throne is indebted for nearly all its lustre," dates its origin from the year 1511. It is chiefly composed of persons who have occupied the principal employments in America.

The merits of the first missionaries are described and praised, and we are told that they braved danger, and submitted to a thousand acts of injustice and cruelty, with the most heroic constancy. The Jesuits also, to whom the education of youth was chiefly confided there as in Europe, are commended with an uncommon degree of ardour; and we are informed, "that the expulsion of these learned men bereaved the youth of Maracaybo, of all the means of instruction."

When the Spaniards were unable to discover any mines of gold or of silver, on the Terra Firma, they bethought themselves that the pearl-fishery would fully reward all their labours; but as it proved expensive, it was soon abandoned. They then betook themselves to the cultivation of cacao, of coffee, of cotton, and of the sugar-cane.

This inquiry naturally leads to a detail of the commercial relations of the country, to a history of the company of the Caraccas, to an account of the administration of the finances, and an enumeration of the towns, such as La Goayra, Porto-Cabello, Valentia, Maracaybo, Tulmero, Coro, Tocuyo, Guanara, Araucara, &c.

The Oronooko separates the Terra Firma from Guyana. It is represented as one of the largest rivers of the world, and in many respects, particularly its annual increase, resembles the Nile. Father Gumilla was the first who presented the world with a circumstantial account of this mighty stream; but he was deceived when he pronounced that

it was connected, and had a direct communication with the river of the Amazons. The testimony of the Baron de Humboldt has since proved fully decisive relative to that subject. He says, "that he entered the Oronooko by the stream of the Apora, and arrived, after incredible difficulties, at Fort St. Charles, which constitutes the limits of the Portuguese settlements. From Fort St. Charles," adds this celebrated traveller, in a letter to the Captain General of the Caraccas, dated August 23, 1800, "we returned to Guyana, by the Cosiquiari, an arm of the Oronooko, which communicates with the Rio-Negro. The force of the current, the immense quantity of flies and insects of all sorts, together with the scantiness of the population, all contribute to render this navigation at once dangerous and fatiguing."

The mouths of the Oronooko appear to have a great affinity to those of the Nile, in respect to the earth thrown up, and formed into a *delta*, by the force of the stream, &c. Here a number of islands are formed, which occupy an extent of sixty miles of territory; they are at least fifty in number. The extreme breadth of the Oronooko is estimated at three thousand and fifty toises; while its depth at low water, opposite to St. Thomas's, is considerable. That town, or rather city, is considered as the capital of Spanish Guyana.

The Author, after narrating a variety of new and important particulars, terminates his work with some remarks relative to the lake Parima, so famous under the name of Eldorado, the search for which formerly occasioned the death of numerous adventurers, who were led thither by cupidity alone. M. de Pons conjectures, that the rays of the sun, by being reflected from the talc with which the borders of the water are covered, and exhibiting in a fine day all the brilliancy of the precious metals, has furnished the basis of most of the fine stories which have been related on this subject.

In 1797, a "conspiracy" was formed, or in other words a revolution was intended by the inhabitants, for the express purpose of enabling them to free themselves from the yoke of the court of Madrid. As it is not at present the interest of France, that the territories of her ally should be dismembered, M. de Pons, in a very pathetic exhortation to the colonists, addresses himself particularly to the Europeans, and the descendants of Europeans in the New World,

and earnestly solicits them to shut their hearts against that moral perfidy with which a destructive anarchy is constantly accompanied: "it pretends to virtue, but practises crime; it promises all sorts of good, and only scatters evil; in short, with the language of an angel it unites the feelings of a tiger," &c.

"*Mon Voyage en Prusse, ou Mémoires Secrets sur Frédéric-le-Grand et la Cour de Berlin.* Par L. M. D. L***."—My Travels in Prussia; or, the Secret Memoirs of Frederick the Great and the Court of Berlin. By L. M. D. L***.

The following paragraph by the author, serves as a preface:

"I was only twenty years of age when I wrote these notes; I thought I had lost them for ever, but, by accident, they were discovered. After having taken the trouble to read them over, M. de Frechel was polite enough to deem them of some value. Without either retouching, or even reperusing them, they are now given to the public." This volume, instead of giving any account of Prussia, abounds entirely with anecdotes relative to the great Frederick, whom the author endeavours, as much as possible, to debase. Nicolai, Bitaubé, and most of the members of the Academy of Berlin, are also treated with but little respect.

BIOGRAPHY.

"*Galerie Historique des illustres Germains, depuis Arminius jusqu'à nos jours, avec leurs Portraits,*" &c.—An Historical Gallery of illustrious Germans, from the days of Arminius to our own Times, with their engraved Portraits, and a Representation of the principal Events of their Lives. Paris, 1806-1807.

This work, which is published in parts, or *livraisons*, is the production of the CHEVALIER DE KLEIN, Privy Counsellor to the King of Bavaria, perpetual Secretary of the German Academy of Mannheim, a Correspondent of the National Institute of France, and a Member of several learned Societies. The frontispiece represents History in the shape of a female, holding a lamp in one hand and a book in the other; thus differing from former artists, who have usually depicted her with a *flambeau*. The figure, &c. is executed by Joseph Fratrel, a Frenchman, in the service of the King of Bavaria.

The first portrait is that of Arminius, the liberator and defender of his country, who, in the school of the Romans, attempted to learn the difficult art of vanquishing them. The second plate repre-

sents the spouse of this hero, who was worthy of him, and who, notwithstanding she was destined to become the captive of Germanicus, yet, by the elevation of her mind, rose superior to the persecutions of fortune.

The third print recalls the memory of an anecdote on the part of one of the lieutenants of Arminius. Boyokal, preferring death to treason, is here represented in the attitude of replying as follows to that Roman, who intended either to seduce or to affright him: "If your countrymen will not allow us a corner of the earth on which to live, we shall at least find a sufficient portion whereon to die!"

The fourth exhibits one of those incidents which seem to appertain to fabulous times, and which the unanimous testimony of historians can alone render credible—the circumstance of the Cimbrian women devoting themselves to destruction, after the victory obtained by Marius.

"The females of this nation," says the author, "according to the text of Plutarch, on beholding their husbands defeated, descend from their cars, clothed in robes that denoted their grief, and, being unable any longer to rally their fugitive cohorts, kill every one they meet with their lances. The ties of nature itself are not respected by their blind patriotism; and, rather than fall into the power of the conqueror, the sister pierces the bosom of the brother, the wife takes away the life of her husband; they either seize and strangle their children with their own hands, or throw them under the wheels of their carriages, after which they put themselves to death also."

The last print is of a very different kind, as it appertains to the history of the arts; it is the portrait of Albert Durer.

The price of every number is 25 franks, and that of a whole volume 150 livres.

"*Eloge de Massillon, Evêque de Clermont, l'un des Quarante de l'Académie Française.*"—The Eulogy of Massillon, Bishop of Clermont, one of the forty Members of the French Academy. By CHARLES HENRY BELIME.

It has been observed, and that too very justly, that eulogies of this species are exceedingly difficult in point of composition. It is far more easy to celebrate a great magistrate, a great minister, or a great warrior, than a great orator; less eloquence is required on the part of him who makes the panegyric of a man distinguished

tinguished in the military art, or in civil affairs, than we expect from the professed eulogist of one who has acquired a high reputation by the talent of elocution alone. The author who would pretend to praise Demosthenes in vulgar language, is equally incapable of appreciating his genius, or celebrating his talents.

It is the opinion of many, that, as Racine is the first French poet, so Massillon is the first French orator: in fine, he has been usually considered the Cicero, while Bossuet has been termed the Demosthenes of France. It has been observed of the former, "that he knew how to weep with grace."

His sermon, "*Sur le petit Nombre des Elus*," (the small Number of the Elect,) is a surprising composition, which, on its delivery, produced such an effect, that the whole audience, struck with a momentary terror, arose as if by agreement. The first time that this bishop preached before Louis XIV. he was also interrupted, during the exordium, by an involuntary murmur of approbation, which neither the sacredness of the place, the brilliancy of the court, nor the presence of the king, were able to repress. Thus he ravished the admiration of a circle, accustomed to the eloquence of Bossuet, of Bourdaloue, and of Flechier.

Louis XIV. had attained the summit of power, prosperity, and glory, when Massillon lectured from the following text: "*Bienheureux ceux qui pleurent*:"—"Happy are they who weep." "Sire!" said he, "if the world were to address your Majesty, it would not repeat, 'Happy are they who weep;' on the contrary, it would exclaim, 'Happy is the King, whose glory is commensurate with his power, who has never fought but to vanquish, who enjoys at one and the same time, the love of his subjects and the esteem of his enemies!' But, Sire, the evangelist does not speak the language of flattery!"

Louis XIV. once addressed the following compliment to the Bishop of Clermont:

"My father! I have heard several great orators in my chapel, and I have generally left it, very well content with them; but when I listen to you, I always retire discontented with myself."

"*Notices Historiques*."—Historical Notices.

The first person whom we shall mention under this head, is Daniel Tilenus, a professor and minister at Sedan, one of

the most learned theologians among the reformers. He was born at Tolberg, in Silesia, on the 4th of February, 1563, and repaired to France in 1590, after having completed his studies in Germany. Having been honoured with the notice of Henry IV. he remained there during the rest of his life.

He appears at first to have been employed in the capacity of an instructor, or private tutor, to youth of condition, and, among others, was preceptor to M. de Rocheposay, afterwards Bishop of Poitiers, M. de Laval, &c. His literary labours soon proved that he had turned his attention, at an early period of life, to the study of the scriptures, the fathers, and of ecclesiastical history in general. It is also evident, that he had attained great eminence in the oriental languages, which are so necessary to all those who wish to ascend to the primitive sources of theology.

His first publication was the Account of a Conference relative to the Apostolic Traditions, which he held at Paris, in 1597, with Jacques Davy Du Perron, Bishop of Evreux, the first catholic prelate who wrote in the French language respecting matters of religion. Two months posterior to this, Tilenus was invited to Sedan, in the double capacity of a protestant minister and a professor of theology. There he remained for about thirty years, and was honoured with the personal esteem of Henry de la Tour, Duke de Bouillon. This prince, although indifferent himself in respect to religious affairs, yet educated his eldest son, Frederic Maurice, under a rigid Calvinist, whilst he placed the great Turenne with Professor Tilenus, a declared partisan of universal toleration.

In 1609, the latter engaged in the dispute which took place in Holland, between the two famous sects, the Gomarists and the Arminians, and he declared against the latter of these; but he afterwards changed sides, on reading the writings of Corvinus. His conduct on this occasion engendered a number of enemies, and particularly the Duke de Bouillon, who appears to have affected to alter his religious tenets at the request of the King of England! The instructor of Turenne was accordingly divested of all his employments, and even obliged to leave a city where he wished to finish his mortal career, after a residence of several years. Having been thus forced to quit Sedan in the middle of the winter of 1619, notwithstanding he was then af-

flicted with a fit of the gout, Tilenus repaired to Paris.

Soon after this, he had a conference of four days at the Castle of l'Isle, near Orleans, with some of the chief leaders of the Gomarists, which ended as conferences of this kind usually do, each, at the conclusion, retaining his own particular notions, and each giving an account of the interview according to his own estimate of it.

It was not long posterior to this event that he addressed a letter to the Scotch, charging them with having made too great a change in respect to the article of religion: he, at the same time, praised the reformation which had taken place in England, observing, "that the practices of the Anglican Church were in strict conformity to those of the ancient Christians." Tilenus passed the remainder of his life in the French capital, and died there on the first of August, 1633. He was certainly married, for he makes mention of his wife in the *Paralipomena*.

During the course of his life, he composed no less than nineteen works, some in French and some in Latin, and we believe all of these were controversial.

"Notices sur Michel Adanson, Membre de l'Ancienne Académie des Sciences," &c.—Notes relative to Michael Adanson, Member of the Ancient Academy of Sciences, of the French Institute, of the Royal Society of London, &c.

Michael Adanson was born at Aix, in Provence, on the 7th of April, 1727, and brought to Paris when only three years of age. Being destined for an ecclesiastic, while yet very young he obtained a trifling living as canon of Champeaux en Brie; but his genius did not fail in a short time to take a very different direction: in fine, his ardour for study procured to him the surname of the "Indefatigable," and became at length an irresistible passion. His particular taste is said to have developed itself so early as the year 1732, when he began to examine the smallest plants, such as the mosses, &c.: these he cultivated on the ledges of the windows, and at the same time took a fancy to collect the most minute insects, particularly those considered as useful. During the period spent by him in the colleges of St. Barbe and Duplessis, he distinguished himself by his Greek and Latin poetry, and was presented with a Pliny and an Aristotle, as a recompence, on account of his attainments.

At the age of thirteen, Adanson began to make notes and observations on certain valuable books. He then applied himself to study the works of nature, and soon evinced an amazing avidity for knowledge. Having procured thirty-three thousand different specimens, out of these he composed a series different from any hitherto known, and instead of a science of names, he endeavoured to construct a science founded on principles. Such was the manner in which he arranged his collection, after eight years' continual labour. He was about to publish the result of his studies, when he reflected that the number of thirty-three thousand species, however great it might appear to the ablest naturalists of that day, who bounded their catalogues to forty or fifty thousand, left a vacuity of at least two-thirds, which was to be filled up by means of new researches.

To complete his vast designs, the necessity of travelling abroad now became evident to him; and having, in 1745, resigned his benefice at Champeaux, in 1748 he sacrificed his patrimony to gratify the ruling passion of his heart. He, at the same time, risked his life; for having determined to visit those countries that were most fertile in productions such as he wished to acquire, he was naturally induced to repair to the regions situate within the torrid zone.

"The centre of Africa having the preference, Adanson accordingly left Paris for Senegal, in October, 1748. In his way thither, he visited the Canaries, and transmitted the result of his observations to the Academy of Sciences. On his arrival at Senegal, where he spent five years in the acquisition of knowledge of various kinds, M. Adanson applied himself with his usual zeal to the study of whatsoever that country afforded either new or curious. But he did not confine himself to this species of knowledge alone; for he endeavoured, at the same time, to render himself acquainted with every thing relative to commerce and the arts. For this purpose, he traversed the most fertile portions of Senegal, formed a geographical chart of it, traced the course of the Niger, and conceived the project of a colony, which was intended to occupy a settlement of six leagues along its banks.

His enquiries and researches at length led him to discover two kinds of trees, both of which produced the real gum Arabic; while, by experiments of various sorts, he was enabled to obtain from the natural

natural indigo of Senegal, a *celestial blue*. This discovery was precious in every point of view, as it had defied the skill of the ablest manufacturers which the French India Company had sent thither at different periods, for this express purpose.

"Having been requested, in 1753, to lay some of his plans before the Directors of that Institution, he accordingly communicated a project for the formation of a colony, which was to cultivate indigo, cotton, tobacco of a superior quality, rice, coffee like that of Mocha, pepper, ginger, spices, &c.; and these, he observed, would here acquire a degree of perfection which the excessive heat of the climate could alone confer. He observed at the same time, that by paying a little attention to the Kings of Galam and Bambouc, they might easily obtain permission to work the rich mines of gold with which those countries abound, and thus obtain products far more abundant than either Peru or Mexico had ever witnessed. The precious metals alone would produce from ten to twelve millions of livres a-year, a sum which might be tripled on any exigency; the gum was estimated at from eight to fourteen millions, while the slave-trade, the sale of wax, honey, senna, dye-woods, salt, skins, Indian corn, &c. would bring in about eight millions: but this union of advantages was never productive of any fortunate result on the part of France, as the project remained unexecuted.

"On the 6th of October, 1753, Adanson left Senegal for the express purpose of returning with his collection to his native country, where he at length arrived, after an absence of several years. His acquisitions, moral, political, and economical, were very great, and he was also enabled to add thirty thousand different species hitherto unknown, to the thirty-three familiar to him before: he afterwards extended his researches, so as to embrace ninety thousand! Soon after this Louis XVI. confided his botanical garden at Trianon to his care, and he at the same time obtained the patent of Naturalist to his Majesty."

In 1756, M. Adanson presented his Description of the *Baobab* of Senegal to the Academy of Sciences, and in 1757, he published his Natural History of that country, accompanied with a geographical chart. In 1758, he was nominated one of the censors of books, by M. de Lavignon-Malesherbes; in 1759, he was admitted a member of the Academy of Sciences, and in 1760, became F. R. S.

London. Nearly at the same time, he was invited by the Emperor of Germany to found an Academy at Louvaine, in conformity to his own plan of natural philosophy: he also received a letter from Linnæus, offering to nominate him a member of the Academy of Upsal, in Sweden.

We are told that, in 1761, the English Minister sent over Mr. Cumming to France, with instructions to offer Adanson a very large sum of money, provided he would communicate either the original, or even a copy, of his papers relative to the productions of Senegal. This proposition, however, is said to have been declined on the part of the naturalist.

Choiseul, then prime minister of France, having conceived the idea of forming a colony at Cayenne, applied to, and obtained the assistance of M. Adanson; and, in 1766, the Empress of all the Russias made him very liberal offers, provided he would reside in quality of a Professor at the University of Petersburg: the Court of Spain afterwards made him a similar proposition.

In 1767, he undertook a journey to Normandy and Brittany, at his own expence, for the express purpose of becoming acquainted with the natural history of these two provinces. In 1773, he read to the Academy a memoir exhibiting the plan of his Natural Universal Encyclopædia, in one hundred and twenty manuscript volumes, adorned with seventy-five thousand figured subjects, in folio. The commissioners who were nominated for the inspection of this astonishing work, made a very advantageous report on its merits.

As he now possessed the most complete cabinet in the world, for it at this time comprehended at least seventy-five thousand different species of the three kingdoms, M. Adanson applied to Louis XVI. for apartments at the Louvre, where they could be placed and arranged; and his Majesty, in 1779, presented him with an additional pension of eighteen hundred francs, instead of the lodgings he had demanded.

At the commencement of the Revolution, this celebrated man beheld his experimental garden trodden under foot; and thus, in a single instant, were the labours of half a century snatched from him. Among other productions, he cultivated there no less than one hundred and thirty different species of the mulberry.

By degrees, he also experienced every kind

kind of privation, and was at length subjected to all the horrors of want: In fine, so deplorable were his necessities, that he was actually deprived of both fire and candle, which rendered him unable to continue his studies during the long nights of winter.

"The lot of the unfortunate Adanson was in some degree ameliorated by the minister Benezech. But it was reserved for another minister, a poet and a man of genius, to form a due estimate of the value of so great a man: M. François de Neufchateau is the person to whom we now allude. He alleviated his situation as much as possible, during the distressing period in question; he paid him every possible degree of respect; he induced the public to recollect the services which he had performed for it; and he testified the deepest regret, that it was not in his power to furnish the sums necessary for the impression of his *Encyclopædia*. In addition to all this, he placed his bust among those of the great men; and when the munificence of the government had ceased to be under his management, the ex-minister took every opportunity to recommend him to his successors.

Adanson both wrote and read in an attitude singularly calculated to hurt his health, for he sat on both occasions in an arm-chair, with his body bent downwards, and his legs elevated on the chimney-piece. After his residence at Senegal, his body evinced an extreme degree of sensibility, both in respect to cold and damps. His rheumatism, too, was not a little augmented by the apartments which he inhabited during the Revolution, which was a parlour in a kind of cottage, on a level with the street, situate in Rue Chantecier, now called Rue de la Victoire.

"Even there he cultivated a few plants, in the little garden attached to his humble habitation, where he would lie down extended on the earth, the better to observe every thing around him. When a friend arrived, he was accustomed to stretch forth both his hands, and exclaim:

"Non indecoro pulvere sordidum!"

At this period he also collected a number of frogs, for the express purpose of becoming better acquainted with their instinct; each received a particular appellation from him; and the habit of seeing and examining these, seemed to have rendered them more docile. During the evening, he was employed in his

closet, and he sometimes omitted, for several nights in succession, to take any rest.

"He had been for a short period afflicted with an ulcer in the right thigh, which was followed by a fracture; and having been obliged, while in this state, to betake himself to his bed, he patiently awaited the effect of those succours which he expected from the intervention of a skilful surgeon. At first he tasted the juice of the grape but seldom; yet on the expiration of the fourth month, he asked for the *vin blanc de Châblis*. He began by drinking it mixed with water, and afterwards by itself, to the amount of three half pints a-day: this and milk were taken alternately by him. During the last fourteen days of his life, lemonade alone was administered; and yet he was seen every morning with a pen in his hand, taking notes and making observations, without recurring to the aid of spectacles. His ardour for study, which had in some respects relaxed, appeared to be reanimated on the evening before his death; and he was in full possession of all his faculties on the 3d of August, 1806, on which day he expired. Eleven hours after his demise, all his bones became so soft, that they could scarcely be distinguished from the flesh.

"In respect to organization, Adanson was of a dry temperament, and eminently nervous. His gestures were lively and impatient: in point of height, he did not exceed five feet. During his youth, he had excelled both in fencing and dancing, and was also very adroit in the management of fire-arms. His sensibility was exquisite: Good music, and more especially the compositions of Gluck, filled his breast with indescribable transports. Even when near eighty years of age, he was extremely delighted on being entertained in this manner.

"Being uncommonly sober, sugared water was his favourite liquor, even at his repasts; his principal aliment, coffee or milk: it often happened that he took no other nourishment until seven o'clock in the evening. After Hippocrates, Aristotle appeared to Adanson to be the finest genius of antiquity; but, without adopting his errors, he contemplated Descartes as the greatest of all the philosophers, both ancient and modern; he considered him, indeed, as far superior to Newton.

"*Mémoires de M. de la Harpe*," &c. —Memoirs of the late M. de la Harpe, with a list of his works.

We have already presented our readers with

with an account of this celebrated author, (see vol. xxii. p. 37.) but in the following statement some errors are rectified, and a variety of new and interesting particulars introduced.

Men of letters have always been caressed and protected in France; and it will be seen from the following account, that, even before the Revolution, they were admitted into the first circles. This memoir will, at the same time, exhibit the extraordinary occurrence of the conversion of one of the modern philosophers to the doctrines of Christianity!

Jean François de la Harpe was born in the year 1740. His father, who was descended from a noble family in the Pays de Vaud, entered early in life into the service of France, obtained the cross of St. Louis, and, notwithstanding his deficiency in respect to wealth, and the impossibility of ever being able to enrich himself in the profession that had been embraced by him, he married a young lady, more recommendable on account of her beauty, her virtue, and her birth, than by any of the advantages usually derived from fortune. This alliance proved as happy as could possibly be expected; but the prospect of a large family rendered the parents at times peculiarly unhappy.

M. de la Harpe, one of the youngest of the children, had already distinguished himself, at an early period of life, by the display of extraordinary talents, when he lost both father and mother, whose superintendence was so necessary to his education. This young orphan, abandoned by all the world, was destitute of every resource, except what he derived from the charity of some pious and well-disposed persons. Paris, at that period, fortunately presented a number of establishments for children of this description, and the good and charitable people just alluded to, had credit sufficient to place him in one of the colleges of the University, as a pensioner.*

While in this situation, the talents of the young scholar began to be developed, and soon gave rise to the most flattering

hopes. His future condition in life depended, in some measure, on his present success; for it was from the *boursiers* that the Universities derived the greater portion of their credit, and continual triumphs appeared to be considered as the price paid by the young people for the asylum, and the attention which they received. Their situation being such, that they could neither reckon on the succour nor the indulgence of their parents, they generally distinguished themselves; and being thus exposed to a perpetual emulation, their courage was excited, and they themselves were rendered capable of extraordinary efforts.

Notwithstanding the disadvantage of being sent to college at too early an age, and being sometimes obliged to study what he could not comprehend, yet, after a short interval, young La Harpe got to the head of his class; and the University of Paris had not been able to boast of such a scholar for many years anterior to this epoch. He displayed the same aptitude in rhetoric as in the languages, and for two succeeding years he obtained all the first prizes: this was a circumstance hitherto unexampled.

Such an unparalleled instance of success occasioned no small degree of surprise; this boy accordingly became the subject of conversation: his admittance to the houses of persons of distinction, began to be considered as a kind of *fashion*; and he was accordingly well known in the world, before he had entirely completed his studies.

This precarious celebrity would have proved extremely prejudicial to most persons in his condition of life; but he, on the contrary, persevered in his studies with unabating industry, and had good sense enough to discover, that the reputation which a young man acquires at college, is neither solid nor durable.

At this period of his life an event occurred, which, while it exhibits the despotic nature of the French government, may, at the same time, account perhaps for his early partiality in favour of a reform. Having addicted himself to the composition of satires, he was supposed to be the author of a lampoon against a person of great credit; and, in consequence of bare unauthorised suspicion, was committed to the house of correction! He himself constantly protested his innocence, and the real author was soon after discovered: yet

* This was then termed a "*boursier*," from the *purse* of money with which persons of this description had been originally presented by the rules of the Institution. The Scotch colleges, like the Scotch courts of justice, were formed after the model of the French, and the term *bursar*, is accordingly continued to this day, in respect to such as derive any emolument from the funds of the University.

* M. Asselin.

this circumstance proved for some time unfavourable to his reputation, and it was long before it became entirely forgotten.

Notwithstanding this, M. de la Harpe already began to be distinguished by men of letters, and the first to whom he became known, was the celebrated Diderot. The interview between them, however, was not calculated to produce friendship; for this stripling, then only seventeen years of age, had the hardihood, and, it may be added, the ill manners, to attack this celebrated man relative to his productions, which he appears to have ridiculed to his face, with more humour than wisdom.

By this time his verses, as well as his college-exercises, had obtained for him a certain degree of reputation in the world; so that, at this period, he was invited to compose the tragedy of "Warwick:" this circumstance prevented him from experiencing many of those vexations which authors generally complain of at their outset in life. The actors, in particular, were prodigal of their applause; and, notwithstanding its premature reputation, a circumstance generally dangerous, his first dramatic effort obtained a degree of success which may be considered as nearly unexampled, for the like had not occurred since the time that Voltaire composed his tragedies for the Parisian stage. It was to this famous man that he dedicated his first performance; and on receiving a flattering answer from this patriarch of literature, he thought proper to prefix it to the work.

But the emoluments derived from the representation of "Warwick," did not prove sufficient to defray the expences of a young man, who had been admitted into the first circles, and was, at the same time, far from being an economist. It therefore became necessary to occupy his time in such a manner as to be able to derive further advantages from his literary labours. His reputation, which was by this time considerable, accordingly obtained admission for him as one of the editors of the "*Gazette Littéraire*," a journal in which all the *philosophers*, as they were called, of that day wrote, and whence it undoubtedly derived no small portion of its reputation. Marmontel, Saurin, Dami Saville, furnished certain articles; even Voltaire himself, sometimes transmitted his lucubrations.

As the periodical work in question was principally directed against "*l'Année Littéraire*," conducted by Freron, the

latter immediately began to libel both "Warwick" and its author. This, like many of the unjust and petulant criticisms of the present day, did not produce the effect that had been expected; for although it occasioned much chagrin to this young man of talents, who possessed no other resources but those derived from his abilities, yet the public did not become prejudiced against him; on the contrary, his tragedy was performed, as usual, to crowded houses.

It is with pain we are now obliged to mention a circumstance that confers but little credit on the ingenuousness of the subject of this memoir. After some able, but bitter, criticisms on "*Le Siège de Calais*," which happened to be performed, at this period, with a degree of success equal to that formerly experienced by the "*Cid*," he was induced, by the popularity of the play, to attempt one himself, after the same manner. He accordingly recurred to the history of France, and selected Pharamond as his hero.

Having been invited to spend some time with Voltaire, at this period he confided his intentions to his friend, who in vain endeavoured to dissuade him. The poet would not listen to the fate anticipated by the critic, whose opinions were, however, but too soon realized, for the piece was *damned*! On this the author, judging of his own labours with an equal degree of severity as the public, threw the manuscript into the fire, and thus destroyed a work, of which certain portions were perhaps worthy of a better fate.

Soon after this, at the express recommendation of his patron, he was persuaded to alter the "*Gustave*" of Piron.—But the critics appear to have been alarmed, and almost disgusted, at the presumption of so young a man, and many epigrams were published against him on this very account. The *Parterre*, too, was of the same opinion at the first representation, and every part of it seemed determined to exclaim, "*Restez nous Piron!*"—"Restore us Piron!"

This, like his "*Pharamond*," was accordingly played but once, and the tragedy of "*Timoleon*" did not prove much more fortunate, as, after a few representations, it also was laid aside.

The author who, subsequently to the flattering reception given to his "*Warwick*," had considered himself as the legitimate successor of the great masters of his art, and had flattered himself with the

the idea, that his reputation was entirely exempt from criticism, immediately changed from the excess of confidence to the excess of discouragement, and now renounced all hopes from the theatre. In consequence of this resolution, he devoted more of his time to general literature, which seemed to be, at this period, his favourite element.

The academic institutions, so common at this period in most of the cities of France, presented an opportunity for young men to distinguish themselves, and also procured for them, if they were so fortunate as to obtain a prize, considerable pecuniary resources. The French Academy had introduced the custom of proposing either the eulogies of great men, or the solution of some great question, either moral or philosophical. M. de la Harpe entered into this career, in which Thomas had already distinguished himself; and it is allowed by all, that his academic discourses possessed a certain degree of dignity, which is rarely to be found in those of his rivals.

Being now resolved to marry, he selected a young woman for his wife, whose parents had been very poor, but who, notwithstanding this, had received an excellent education. He was at pains to inspire her with a taste for literature, and appeared, above all, solicitous that she should be able to converse with him, relative to those objects which occupied his attention. This lady, who had frequented the *Theatre Français*, was soon capable of declaiming; and by repeating the speeches composed by her husband, was thus enabled to afford him an idea, as it were, by anticipation, in what manner they would be received on the stage. But after the misadventure that occurred to "Gustave,"—this proved of but little service, and the young couple were soon reduced to great distress.

On this, Voltaire, with his accustomed generosity, interposed, and expressed a wish that they should remain with him at Ferney, until the complete re-establishment of their affairs. The residence of this kind patron was, at this period, the centre of the correspondence of all the philosophers of Europe, while he himself was looked up to as their patriarch. Men of rank, courtiers, magistrates, and even trades-people, imposed on themselves the obligation of performing a pilgrimage to the Pay de Gex, in which his little domain was situate. Accustomed to correspond and converse familiarly with princes and even kings, he himself seemed to resem-

ble a sovereign, and enjoyed almost similar honours; for his anti-chamber was crowded every morning with strangers, who repaired thither merely to see him, and were enraptured if he but deigned to open his mouth.

It was at this court, the first which any poet had ever formed around him, that M. and Madame de la Harpe now arrived. Voltaire had erected a theatre, on which his earlier tragedies were acted, and by its means he also formed a notion of such as he had recently composed. His new guests immediately formed part of the *dramatis personæ*; and as they possessed good figures, and were accustomed to declaim, they soon united all the suffrages in their favour.

It was precisely at this period that the subject of the present memoir began to conceive hopes of being admitted into the French Academy. His claims consisted of a tragedy, which had become a stock-piece at the theatre, together with two discourses which had been crowned. D'Alembert, and even Marmontel, considered his pretensions to be well founded, and did every thing in their power to pave the way for his reception; but Dorat, then in great vogue at Paris, had been offended by some of his criticisms, and having become his enemy, prevented his success.

His distress at this period was so great, that he had at one time nearly consented to repair to the Court of St. Petersburg; but he was prevented by the remonstrances of Voltaire, with whom he had now resided for the space of thirteen months. During this visit, he had written some scenes of his tragedy of "Barnabé des Cévennes," and also, "La Réponse à l'Épître de l'Abbé de Rancé."

A new epoch in his life now occurred. On his return to the capital, he betook himself, as before, to criticism, and had the good fortune, as he then deemed it, to be associated with Lacombe, at that period the proprietor and the editor of the "Mercure." On this, that journal assumed a new appearance; for, by means of his pen and his talents, it soon acquired an uncommon degree of circulation and celebrity.

M. Dupati having, nearly at the same time, proposed the Elogy of Henry IV. on the part of the Academy of Rochelle, La Harpe became a candidate for the prize; but he only obtained the *accessit*. He was also introduced, by means of Voltaire, to the Duc de Choiseul, and soon acquired the friendship of that minister,

nister, who entertained a high respect for his merit. When the French Premier was weary of public affairs, he conversed with him on the subject of literature; and, on all occasions, he expressed his opinions with a degree of frankness which the other had hitherto been but little accustomed to. It was to please him that he translated Suetonius into French, which was begun and completed in the space of two months. We lament to add, that it was immediately published, while still in an imperfect state; and as he had, by this time, increased the number of his enemies, in consequence of the boldness and severity of his criticisms, they took care to point out all its faults, and that too with an unexampled degree of bitterness. La Harpe, on the other hand, admitted all the errors attributed to him, with a degree of frankness which was but little expected, and this contributed not a little to obtain his pardon with the public.

In addition to this, he now added greatly to his former reputation by means of a drama, entitled "*Melanie*," respecting which Voltaire, D'Alembert, and most of the celebrated men of that age, had already raised the curiosity of the public. The moral of it was wholly directed against monastic institutions, and vows made at a period when the contracting party was incapable of judging as to the solemnity and extent of the engagement. The poet of Ferney wrote to him as follows on this subject: "You have all the philosophers and the ladies on your side, and, with such a recommendation, it is impossible to fail."

This prophecy was fully confirmed by the event; but, in the very zenith of his reputation, he was in danger of being sent to the Bastille, in consequence of some satirical verses against the Duke de Richelieu, a nobleman celebrated for his gallantries and debaucheries of all kinds, but whose influence at the court of Louis XV. a prince of a similar temperament, was such, as to have shut up one half of the men of letters in Paris, *on bare suspicion*, had he been so inclined! Voltaire on this, as on every other occasion, interposed his ægis, and preserved his friend.

Meanwhile the Elogy of Fenelon, which obtained the prize at the French Academy, conferred new reputation on the labours of La Harpe, and he pleased the philosophical party, by whom he had been constantly protected, in consequence of some sly attacks on the cha-

racter of Bossuet. As D'Alembert was now in high credit with this body, he was at length certain that he would be admitted a member, and this consideration supported and enabled him to continue his labours.

On the accession of Louis XVI. M. Turgot, become one of the new ministers, took every opportunity of exhibiting a high degree of regard for the subject of this memoir, who was now busily occupied about three different dramatic works, which were to point at three different objects. In the "*Baremeicides*," he endeavoured to describe heroism and generosity; in "*Jeanne de Naples*," the fatal effects of the passions; and in "*Menzikoff*," the disgrace of a powerful minister, a disgrace the better calculated to obtain interest and attention, by being accompanied with a degree of resignation almost without a parallel in history. The last of these attracted such applause, that the young Queen became desirous to be present at the representation; and such was the effect of this trifling circumstance in a despotic country, that it put the adversaries of the author to silence!

Nearly at the same time, he obtained the long-expected chair of the French Academy, having succeeded Colardeau. From this moment his enemies became more reserved in their attacks, and he in his censures. M. Necker also, on his advancement to a high situation in the management of the finances, evinced the greatest respect for La Harpe: but it was to Calonne, with whom he had no manner of connexion, that he was indebted, about this period, for a pension.

After having distinguished himself by his criticisms in three different literary journals, all of which he rendered celebrated, M. de la Harpe at length determined to commence a "*Cours de Littérature*" at the Lyceum. In the capacity of a Professor, he accordingly read a course of lectures to the Parisians, both male and female, who were so captivated with his taste and talents, that this amusement not only became fashionable, but he himself obtained the appellation of "*The French Quintilian*."

When the Revolution occurred, notwithstanding the loss of his pension, our author for some time adopted the principles of the reformers. During two whole years, he remained firm to the party that then triumphed; but he no sooner imagined that they had overstepped the boundaries at which they ought to have stopped, than he wrote against them

them in the "Mercure." On this he was denounced, and obliged in some degree to retract, and that circumstance afterwards furnished a pretext for the most odious calumnies on the part of his enemies. In 1793, he was at length arrested, and imprisoned in the Luxembourg. By this time, a large proportion of those with whom he had been intimately connected had lost their lives on the scaffold, and the same fate appeared to be reserved for himself. La Harpe now became melancholy, and was ready to fall into despair: on this he, who had hitherto distinguished himself as a man of letters, and an academician, without paying any attention to the prevailing opinions relative to religion, determined to taste of the consolations of Christianity.

A pious female, with whom he had got acquainted during his confinement, is said to have first inspired him with this idea; and having advised him to seek for consolation in the Psalms of David, he was so charmed with them, that he immediately commenced a literary commentary, in which he pointed out their beauties. This was afterwards converted into a Preliminary Discourse to the Translation of the Psalms, the first work in which he announced his conversion.

That event occasioned some noise; more especially as he informs his readers in one of the notes, that he was accustomed to obtain comfort in his affliction, by opening the Psalms, as if by accident, and looking at the first passage which occurred. In this, he at one particular period, not only found great consolation, but he says that he received from it a solution of all his difficulties.

On being released from confinement, De la Harpe entered the world quite a different man from what he was before, being now determined to support that cause with intrepidity, which he had embraced with so much ardour. He accordingly resolved thenceforward to dedicate his literary harangues, which were originally intended to form the taste of his auditors, to the defence of religion. Great labour and much attention were required, to give this direction to his "cours de littérature;" but notwithstanding the multitude of obstacles that interposed, he in the space of a very few years completed that vast Circle of Literature, in which both ancients and moderns are judged and appreciated.

On his reassuming the chair at the Lyceum, he made a full, public, and

ample recantation, of his former opinions; but he was twice proscribed, and obliged to fly. During the latter of those persecutions, he obtained an asylum at a house but a few leagues distant from Paris, by the interposition of the pious female who had been the means of producing the alteration in his religious opinions, while imprisoned at the Luxembourg; and during this period of his life, he composed his celebrated pamphlet, entitled "*Le Fanatisme dans la Langue revolutionnaire*," which was read with an extraordinary degree of avidity, but, at the same time added not a little to the fury of his enemies.

After this, he entirely occupied his time with, "*l'Apologie de la Religion*," and perused and studied the Lives of the Saints, and other holy books, for the express purpose of deriving arguments from these sources, against the Philosophers and their writings. On this occasion he must be allowed to have possessed one advantage, not enjoyed before by any of his predecessors, as he knew both the weak and the strong points of the doctrine he now combated; and indeed, according to his own expression, he had spent "nearly the whole of his life in the enemy's camp."

M. de la Harpe had always been industrious in his literary labours, and his aptitude for application appears to have increased during the period of his proscription. The chamber occupied by him overlooked a garden surrounded with very high walls, where he could walk whenever he was so disposed. During the whole of the morning, he was accustomed to write at a table near the window; and in the afternoon, he took the only recreation he permitted himself to enjoy: this consisted solely in a solitary walk.

On his return to his apartment, he resigned himself to pious exercises, and concluded the evening by reading works analagous to those he was engaged on. This uniform and sedentary life did not in the least tire him; all the activity of his mind was occupied in that cause to which he had devoted himself; and the continual dangers to which he remained exposed, could not in the least alter that mental tranquillity so eminently enjoyed by him. He was often accustomed, indeed, to remark, that the epoch of his proscription proved the happiest portion of his life: his health, indeed, seemed to improve, and his friends flattered themselves that his career would still prove long

long and brilliant: but they were disappointed!

No sooner were the apprehensions of M. de la Harpe dissipated, and he had returned to mix with the world, than all the flattering appearances of longevity were immediately dissipated. A number of infirmities, to which he had hitherto been a stranger, now shewed themselves; and he himself began to anticipate the melancholy catastrophe. Firmly convinced in his own mind, that he could never better repair his former errors, than by a work calculated to enlighten the incredulous, he laboured with additional ardour at his *Apology for Religion*, in which he had embraced a vast and extensive plan. He was often accustomed to observe, when speaking on this subject, that he could die without regret, provided he were but able to finish this work.

La Harpe had no occasion for these warnings to prepare himself for death, for he not only fulfilled all the duties of religion with the most minute exactitude, but even expiated his former mistakes, by means of a most rigorous penance. Several of his surviving friends have beheld him at times, when he did not think himself observed, lying with his face towards the earth, and exhibiting the most lively signs of a sincere repentance.

His last illness, which exhibited a complication of diseases, announced itself in a manner so as to demonstrate from the very first, that the termination would be fatal. No sooner did he perceive death inevitable, than his resignation, amidst the most cruel sufferings, became equally instructive and affecting to those who surrounded him. His friends were astonished that, notwithstanding the impetuosity of his character, he was able to support the agonies of dissolution without a groan. But what still surprised them more, was the indifference which he affected for his own works; an indifference which not only extended to his literary, but even his religious productions. During the whole of his illness, he never once mentioned his "*Apologie de la Religion*," to which he had before attached such importance, but contented himself with merely exclaiming, a few days before his dissolution, "God has not permitted me to repair the evil I have committed."

At the approach of death, his agonies seemed to be somewhat alleviated; he also preserved his usual presence of mind,

and was still capable of conversing with his friends. His eyes, however, could no longer bear the light, and he was kept constantly shut up within the curtains of his bed. In this position he heard and understood every word that was uttered, and sometimes he himself would mention to his friends the consolations which he derived from religion.

One of them remarks on this occasion, "that no affectation of courage was observable in his discourse, which was characterized by an humble resignation. The philosophers," adds he, "endeavour to die in a theatrical manner; but Christians, on the other hand, are filled with reflexions of a nature superior to all human vanities."

M. de la Harpe resigned his life February 11, 1803, in the 64th year of his age.

His will, which was made at the beginning of his illness, contains a variety of legacies to his relations and the poor, as well as his best wishes for the prosperity of France. On the evening before his demise, he made the following declaration, which we shall here transcribe, without any commentary whatsoever, leaving it entirely to the reader to decide relative to the religious opinions of this very extraordinary man:

"Having yesterday enjoyed the happiness," says he, "of receiving the holy communion for the second time, I deem it my duty once more to make the last declaration of those sentiments which I have publicly manifested during the last nine years, and in which I still persevere. A Christian by the grace of God, and professing the catholic apostolical and Roman religion, in which I have had the happiness to be born and educated, and in which it is my concluding wish both to live and to die, I declare, that I firmly believe in whatsoever is believed and taught by the Roman church, the only church founded by Jesus Christ.

"That I condemn with my heart and spirit all that she condemns, and that I approve all that she approves.

"In consequence of which, I retract all that I have written and printed, or that has been printed under my name, which may be contrary to the catholic faith, or to good morals; hereby disavowing the same, and as much as lies in my power condemning and dissuading the publication of them, as well as the reprinting, and representation on the theatre.

"I also hereby equally retract and condemn

condemn every erroneous proposition that may have escaped from me in these different writings. I likewise exhort all my countrymen to entertain sentiments of peace and of concord; I ask pardon of all those who think they have a right to complain of me; and I, myself, at the same time, in like manner, most sincerely pardon all those of whom I have a right to complain."

The works of M. de la Harpe are voluminous; an edition of them was published in 1771; and in 1806 a new one appeared under the title of "*Œuvres Choies & Posthumes*," in 4 vols. corrected with his own hand.

Vol. I. contains *Le Comte de Warwick*, *Melanie*, *Jeanne de Naples*, *Philoctete*, *Coriolan* & *Virginie*.

Vol. II. his *Moliere* "a la nouvelle Saie," with extracts of *Gustave*, *Timo-leon*, *Pharamond*, *Menzicoffe*, *les Barmecides*, *Barnevel*, *les Muses Rivales*, *les Brames*, *Polynexe*, *Vengeance d'Achille*, *Aboulcasem*, *Jerusalem Delivree*, & *la Pharsalie*.

Vol. III. his "*Discours en Vers*," his "*Poesies Legeres*," his "*Epitres & Pieces Diverses*," and his "*Discours Academiques*."

Vol. IV. consists of "*Précis Historique sur le Prince Menzicoff*," and "*Fragmens d'Apologie de la Religion*;" containing,

1. Philosophical Prolegomena, or a demonstration of the essential connexion between Man and God.

2. The certainty of the mission of Jesus Christ and the Apostles.

3. Of Miracles.

4. Of Mysteries and the Prophecies.

And, 5. Imitations in verse, of two Psalms.

MISCELLANEOUS.

"*Cours complet d'Harmonie et de Composition, d'après une Théorie nouvelle*; par J. J. DE MOMIGNY. Trois vol. in 8vo."—A complete Course of Harmony and Composition, after a new Theory; by J. J. de Momigny.

M. de Momigny has on this occasion endeavoured to present a series of musical compositions in every point of view; and he now appeals to the judgment of those who have occupied their attention with this charming art. Quintilian observes, that it would be fortunate if such only were to decide: "*Felices essent artes si de illis soli artifices judicarent*."

The Author is allowed, by some of the critics, to possess a brilliant imagination, abounding with novelty; and is at the same time considered as a competent

and enlightened judge. Whether or not he has found out the boundaries of the true theory of music as here pretended, still remains to be proved; but it is evident that he is a complete courtier, for he terms the union of instrumental sounds with the human voice, the "monarchical unity;" and seems to think, that every thing "democratical," "aristocratical," "directorial," or "republican," is in direct opposition to "harmony."

"*Pericles: De l'Influence des Beaux Arts sur la Félicité publique*; nouvelle Edition, revue & corrigée par l'Auteur."—*Pericles*, or the Influence of the Fine Arts on the public Happiness; a new edition, revised and corrected.

The author of this work is a sovereign prince, although he is content to designate himself simply in the title-page as "*Charles d'Alberg*, a foreign associate of the Institute of France." It consists of seven dialogues, in which an attempt is made, by the adoption of the dramatic form, to give animation to philosophic truths respecting the fine arts; and these are here contemplated rather in respect to their utility than their elegance. By the elevation of genius, and the incitement to virtue, they are, in fine, regarded as influencing private as well as public happiness, in no common degree.

The first dialogue takes place between *Anaxagoras* and *Euripides*, on leaving the theatre after the representation of the tragedy of *Helen*. This serves as a preface to the whole; for, after the poet had detailed his reasons for writing for the stage, the philosopher animadverts on the connexion between the drama, and architecture, painting, sculpture, and music. He at the same time announces his design to engage *Pericles* to patronise and encourage all these arts.

The second dialogue is between *Anaxagoras* and *Pericles*, in the square where the latter has just harangued the people. This statesman, although fully sensible of the emotions which the fine arts confer, at first resists all the insinuations and all the counsels of the philosopher.

"How is Greece interested," says he, "in respect to the embellishments of Athens? She desires that the empire of the laws may preserve her alike from despotism and anarchy: this is the only object of all her vows."

Anaxagoras, on the other hand, remarks, that, provided Athens should become a school in which distinguished talents of every kind took up their abode, great advantages would necessarily accrue

to the state; for the minds of all the Greeks would be ennobled, while their manners would at the same time be softened by a new source of mental pleasures truly worthy of a man. Pericles promises to think of this, and at length proposes to Anaxagoras, since he had conceived such a high notion of the utility of the arts, to consent to become inspector-general of them. This the sage refuses, but advises to confer the place on Phidias, as he himself wished to remain "solely devoted to the progress of the sciences; to the examination of nature; and to the study of the connexion subsisting between causes and effects: thus ascending towards the Divine Intelligence that regulates the Universe."

In the course of the third dialogue, Phidias accepts, but not without some modest objections, the direction of the labours which Pericles has confided to his management. He at the same time expresses himself relative to his own art with enthusiasm, and in respect to the others, with sensibility and intelligence. The scene is at the entrance of the citadel, for the construction of the portico of which, Pericles now gives orders.

In the course of the ensuing dialogue, Phidias repairs to Mount Hymetus, where he interrupts the astronomical observations of Anaxagoras, in order to demand and receive his advice. The philosopher, after exhibiting an universality of attainments, animadverts so as to evince great knowledge of the human heart, on the delicacy with which artists ought to be directed, in respect to their particular studies.

The fifth dialogue takes place in the workshop of a sculptor. Thither Phidias brings Mnesias, the most celebrated musician of Athens, in order that Alcamenes, who was employed for that purpose by Pericles, might carve his bust. The latter, who was the ablest of all the scholars of Phidias, enters into an animated conversation with his two friends, relative to the differences between, and similitude in respect to all the arts. They treat of the "specific imitation," the "generic imitation," and the "transcendent imitation." Each speaks in his own proper character:

"Dicunt debentia dici;"

and their style is replete with Attic salt and Attic grace.

The two last dialogues are perhaps the most interesting of the whole. Pericles, who is confined to his bed, appears un-

happy lest the fruit of all his labours should be lost after his death. He sends for Alcibiades, to whom is about to be transferred the burden of his extensive authority. He exhorts him to wisdom, and to firmness; above all things he entreats that he should be careful to maintain the good opinion of the allies, and at the same time to manage the revenues of the state with economy. In respect to the latter subject, he offers up some excuses for his own conduct: he was desirous, he observed, to unite domestic economy with national grandeur.

Alcibiades on this occasion displays all the fiery temperament of his character. He wishes to shine in Athens, by astonishing the universe: his schemes and projects appear unbounded.

"The time is at length arrived," exclaims he, "when the Greeks, led by the Athenians, shall become masters of the universe!" He then displays the whole bent of his character, and felicitates himself with the hopes of an extensive authority, derived from the favour of the people.

"And I," says Pericles, "I also was intoxicated with glory during my youth; but I at length became acquainted with that species which is alone founded on truth: real glory followed me from the moment that I abandoned the other."

Alcibiades, after paying a feeble homage to whatsoever appears sage and provident, indulges himself in his darling passion. He then exclaims, in those raptures engendered by an ardent imagination, "Let a new Homer one day celebrate in Alcibiades a new Achilles! Let the chissels of future Phidiases and Alcameneses eternize my features! May I be assured of the affection of my contemporaries, and the admiration of ages yet unborn!—May the gods but grant me a single instant of such felicity, a single drop of this nectar—I shall then die content." Having spoken this, he retires.

"A lamp burning in the apartment, conveys a dim light, just sufficient to discover Aspasia sitting by the pillow of the expiring hero, who beseeches her, at his death, to unite her endeavours with those of Socrates, for the purpose of moderating the ardent ambition of Alcibiades. She, on the other hand, at once disclaims her capability of so difficult a task, and mentions her resolution not to survive Pericles. In an affecting manner, she recalls past events, and insists on those sentiments of love and honour which ought to attach her to the illustrious man

she is about to lose. The moment she had concluded, the lamp is extinguished, and Pericles expires!"

Such is the abridgment of a work which deserves to be read in the original. The author does honour to letters, by his attachment to, and his progress in them; and we could wish to see persons of the same rank in our own country devoting themselves to pursuits equally honourable.

"*Traité Elementaire de Calcul différentiel et de Calcul integral*, par S. F. Lacroix."—An Elementary Treatise, concerning the Differential and Integral Calculus, by S. F. LACROIX, the second edition, revised and corrected.

M. de Lacroix, who has been for many years employed in the education of youth, here presents the public with an abridgement of a larger work, on the same subject, well known to the mathematical world. Of the present, a large edition has been purchased, within a short space of time.

"*Description des travaux hydrauliques de LOUIS ALEXANDRE DE CESSART*, Doyen des Inspecteurs généraux des Ponts et Chaussées, &c.—A Description of the hydraulic Labours of Louis Alexander de Cessart, head of the Inspectors-General of Bridges and Roads, one of the Commanders of the Legion of Honour, and a Member of several Academies and Learned Societies: a work printed from the Author's Manuscripts, and adorned with his Portrait, 2 vols. quarto, with sixty-seven Plates.

The first volume only of this publication has as yet made its appearance. It is extracted from the Papers and Observations of M. de Cessart, one of the most distinguished Members of the corps to which he belongs, and is said to be the result of fifty years' labour. In the course of it, he intends to convey a detailed account of all the different undertakings in which he has been engaged. He is at the same time to present an account of all new inventions, as well as to support the validity of his own experiments, &c. by means of proofs.

This, which is a very large volume, contains the particulars of the construction of the Bridge of Saumur, of a Wall for the Quay at Rouen; the different Works erected at the Port of Havre, as well as those at Treport. The whole concludes with two plans, the one of a Turning or Moveable Bridge, applicable to the entrance of Basins; the other of a Bridge formerly intended to have been

executed in front of the Louvre, and which has since been erected, although with certain modifications, under the name of the *Pont des Arts*.

MM. de Cessart and Voglio, are the Engineers to whom France is indebted, we are told, for the new method of laying foundations by means of *caissons*.

"This method, originally invented for the re-construction of Westminster bridge, in 1738, by Labelye, a Swiss Engineer, was not attended with all the success which the inventor expected; for one of the piles having broke, he was obliged to demolish the contiguous arches, and re-build them anew. M. de Cessart, enlightened by this example, and also by his own experience, knew how to deduce every advantage that could possibly be derived from an improved process; and he accordingly made an useful application of his knowledge to the bridge of Saumur, which was commenced in 1757. In the course of this undertaking, he invented a saw, by means of which four men can cut any number of piles under the surface of the water with the greatest ease.

As the demolition of the ancient piles became absolutely necessary after the erection of a new bridge at Saumur, M. de Cessart turned his attention that way, and soon succeeded in cleaving those that could be easily reached. But as it was requisite to extirpate the whole of them, so as to facilitate the navigation when the waters became low, some new plan of operations was required. He accordingly invented a process for their demolition, by means of mines under the water, which would apply equally well to sunken rocks," &c.

The wall, along the quay of Rouen, extends one hundred and ten fathoms, and in the course of this work, he made a new and successful attempt to lay the foundation by means of piles, which were driven in a particular manner.

"In 1776, the repairs of the Basin of Havre were confided to the care of M. de Cessart. That able Engineer undertook the whole, and executed it in four months, at the expence of forty-five thousand franks, although the time calculated had been three years, and the cost estimated at one hundred and sixty thousand franks. After this, he executed a moveable bridge, which may be considered as a model of its kind. Its solidity indeed was fully demonstrated immediately after the construction, by the passing of all the artillery appertaining to the citadel over it, as the cannon was destined

destined for the army assembled in 1778, for the purpose of effecting a descent on England.

"The construction of the sluice of Treport, in 1777, on a spot partly composed of rock, and partly of moving sand, presents a new field for research, relative to the best means of laying foundations in similar situations. In the plan of a moveable bridge, so constructed as to afford a free passage of from thirty-six to fifty-six feet in breadth; the author makes a happy application of a floating body, calculated to support the bridge at high water, and to open and shut it without any considerable exertion. There is a model of this Bridge at the Museum *Des Ponts et Chaussées*.

"M. de Cessart, may also claim the honour of having furnished the first idea of the iron bridge in front of the Louvre. It is easily perceivable that his system has been followed on this occasion, with some modifications indeed, as to the number of arches, as well as the substitution of stone instead of timber: but it is not a little glorious to him to have prepared the success of such a work, the first of its kind indeed, that ever was constructed in France, at the age of eighty-two!"

The second volume, which will speedily make its appearance, is to contain an Account of the Sluice at Dieppe, of the Works erected at the Port of Becquet, together with the interesting details relative to the project for forming a road at Cherbourg, by means equally new and ingenious, but which, luckily perhaps for some of her neighbours, France has never been able to execute.

"*La Guerre des Esclaves en Sicile, du temps des Romains, suivie de la Guerre des trois Mois, &c.*"—The War of the Slaves in Sicily, during the Time of the Romans, &c. by XAVIER SCROFANI, a Sicilian, and a Correspondent of the National Institute of France. This is a translation from the original Italian, in which little work M. Scrofani has collected from Diodorus, and Dion Cassius, all the particulars relative to the Servile War. He is at great pains to describe the singular resolution with which the slaves sustained the siege of a town where they had shut themselves up, and to commemorate the perseverance with which they supported fatigue and famine, and all the ills resulting from one of the most terrible contests recorded in history.

"After having killed and devoured the

most disgusting animals, after having consumed all the rotten leather that could be found, and even bones ground and formed into a paste, as well as the roots of trees mingled with earth, such was the profound hatred of the garrison to their masters, such the terror with which they were infected, that rather than yield through the pressure of famine, they at length killed and fed on their own wives and children. After this, they drew lots for the victims, and concluded by eating one another. What is to the full as wonderful, not one of them, whether maid, wife, or youth, whether father or child, ever uttered any complaint, or shed a single tear; on the contrary, they encouraged one another to die; they even invited and directed the fatal stroke; at the same time, making the survivors swear by the blood that then flowed, to defend to the last extremity a place, on the possession of which depended the liberty of the rest of their brethren, as well as their own entire destruction.

"This desperate courage, which astonished even the enemy, would have retarded perhaps the surrender of the town until Eunus had sent them succours, if treason had not proved still more formidable than the Roman legions. Rupilius, no longer hoping to be able to obtain possession of the place, either by famine or force, at length had recourse to treason, and succeeded. By the temptation of gold and liberty, he seduced a Syrian slave, called Serapion, who engaged to open one of the gates to him. The Romans accordingly entered under favour of the night, and when the sun arose, the besieged found themselves so completely enveloped, that they were forced to surrender. During three complete days, the massacre of these unhappy persons was continued; the city was delivered up to the flames by way of punishment, for having given refuge to the rebels; while those who escaped from the sword, were either dashed against the rocks, or precipitated from the adjoining hills into the sea."

The following anecdote which terminates the whole, will serve better than any words to describe the horror entertained by these unhappy men, of the slavery to which they had been forced to submit by their cruel masters, and cannot but excite consolation in our own bosoms, at the reflection of having recently abolished a most cruel and unjust traffic in our fellow-men.

"After

"After the capture of the city, Rupilius, astonished at what had been told him of the inveterate animosity of the slaves, wished that he himself might see and interrogate Coma, the butcher of Cleon, who had been prevented from either flying, or killing himself, relative to the character and talents of his brother, and of Eunus. But what cannot the memory of past injuries, and the fear of new sufferings effect, even among the most degraded beings! Coma, on being conducted before the Consul, replied to his questions as well as his threats, by means of a scornful smile alone. Having resolved to perish rather than satisfy the curiosity of the conqueror, he bent his body, placed his head between his thighs, retained his breath, and pressed his breast in such a manner, that in the course of a few moments he fell down at the feet of Rupilius, without motion, and without life."

"*Essai historique et littéraire sur la Médecine des Arabes; par G. J. Amoreux, Médecin de Montpellier, &c.*"—An Historical and Literary Essay, relative to the State of Medicine among the Arabians; by G. J. AMOREUX, a Physician of Montpellier, and Member of several learned Societies.

M. Amoreux, in this octavo volume, which bears the modest title of an "Essay," has sketched out the history not only of medicine, but also of the most famous medical men among the Arabians. The authors of that nation, fill up the immense chasm that preceded the general revival of learning; for sciences and letters, protected by the Caliphs, flourished both in Spain and the East, at an epoch when Europe was still plunged in ignorance and barbarity. We are also furnished with several judicious hints and observations, relative to the Libraries still existing in those days, as well as the institutions whether civil, religious, agricultural, or medical, formed by the Moors.

"*Flore de Bade et d'Alsace, etc, rangée suivant le Système de Linnéus, avec des Figures dessinées d'après Nature; par M. Charles Christian Gmelin, Docteur en Médecine, &c. &c.*"—The Flora of Baden and Alsace, arranged according to the Linnæan System, with Figures designed after Nature, by M. CHARLES CHRISTIAN GMELIN, &c.

This, which appears to be a work of great labour, has not yet been completed. Before he engaged in such a toilsome undertaking, M. Gmelin, we are told, visited the vallies, the woods, and the mountains of Baden, as well as those of

the adjoining territories. In addition to this, he consulted all the botanists of the neighbourhood, and he now quotes their opinions with gratitude. In short, these volumes are the result of twenty-five years travels, study, and observation, in the course of which period, the author has caused to be transplanted into the electoral garden of plants, at Carlsruhe, all the rare indigenous species which he had not hitherto an opportunity of examining with attention, in order that he might remark the changes which cultivation produces on them. In addition to all this, M. Gmelin, as a necessary preliminary to his botanical pursuits, travelled into Switzerland, the Southern parts of France, the mountains of the Pyrenees, the kingdoms of Catalonia, Valencia, Murcia, Arragon, and the two Castilles, to satisfy his curiosity, and add to his knowledge.

After the generic and individual characters, we are presented with the specific names, as well as those imposed by celebrated Botanists, to which are added the Latin, French, German, English, and sometimes the Italian Nomenclature. A variety of particulars relative to the usual habitation of each plant, its duration, its colour, its time of flowering, its properties, and its virtues, whether it be of any service in pharmacy, in the arts, or in rural economy, &c. are detailed. So attentive has he been, in fine, to every thing relative to his subject, that we here find a list of the insects hurtful to certain descriptions of plants, and an account of the best methods of destroying such as are noxious to their growth and propagation.

"*Le Chapeau de Paille, Poème didactique de Marco Lastri, associé de l'Académie des Géorgophiles de Florence, et de plusieurs autres Académies.*"—The Straw Bonnet, a Didactic Poem, by MARCO LASTRI, an Associate of the Georgophilian Society of Florence, and also of several other Academies.

This is a translation from an Italian Didactic Poem of six hundred lines, denominated "*Il Capello di Paglia*," in the original. In Florence, it has been the custom during many years past, for the ladies to cover their heads with a manufacture of this kind, which fashion has extended to London, Paris, and all the great Cities and even Towns of Europe.

The following are the introductory lines to the French version:

"*Jadis d'Ascre le chan re harmonieux
Fut le premier dont le talent utile
Nous enseigna cet art ingénieux,
Par qui Cybèle ouvre un sein plus fertile.*

Mais l'art qui sait d'un frêle chalumeau
 Entrelasser cette tresse légère,
 Qu'on voit parer d'un élégant réseau,
 Non le berger ou la simple bergère,
 Mais un front noble, une riche beauté,
 Belle Signa l'honneur de l'Etrurie,
 Cet art charmant né de ton industrie
 Fut sous nos yeux par toi seule enfanté;
 Et je veux, moi, que mes heureuses rimes,
 Prenant l'essor vers tes riantes cîmes,
 De ces travaux chantent l'utilité;
 Humble sujet dont la faiblesse étonne;
 Mais en foulant les plus âpres sentiers;
 Quand le ciel veut, on cueille des lauriers:
 Ainsi cueillit sa brillante couronne
 Le-cygne altier dont s'honore Crémone,
 Lorsqu'il chanta le ver industriel
 Qui de son sein file un or précieux.
 D'autres encor, par une égale audace,
 Ont su prouver dans leurs brillans essais,
 Qu'un sujet pauvre était riche en succès;
 Et moi je puis en marchant sur leur trace,
 Chanter cet art dont les bienfaits certains
 De la vieillesse et de l'aimable enfance,
 Du sexe faible écartant l'indigence,
 Sait occuper tant d'inutiles mains.
 Riches produits d'une vile matière,
 Nous vous voyons flotter sur l'onde amère,
 Et vers nos murs les bords les plus lointains,
 Renvoyer l'or en si grande abondance
 Que vos succès passent la vraisemblance.

Toi qui souvent à d'utiles leçons,
 As su donner et la force et la grace,
 Muse, descends des sommets du Parnasse;
 Viens à ma voix prêter les plus doux sons.
 Accours aussi, déesse des moissons;
 Et, s'il se peut, vois sans nulle colère
 L'avare main, qui, du sein de la terre,
 En herbe encore arrache tes bienfaits:
 Des ornemens que l'art en aura faits
 Je veux parer ta tête radieuse.
 Aux déités, sous un léger chapeau,
 Tu vas bientôt te montrer orgueilleuse,
 Et de dépit voir Pallas envieuse
 Jetter son casque, incommode fardeau.

As the English females have of late years manufactured their own Bonnets, it may be necessary here to remark that the author is at great pains to point out the proper situation for the culture of the best kind of straw. Above all things, he advises to avoid a fertile, and make choice of a poor, and what is called in this country, a "hungry" soil. The high grounds that overlook the Arno, in the vicinity of Florence, are considered the best adapted for this species of product.

The grain to be sown, after all the necessary previous dispositions have been attended to, is called in France, *blé de Mars*, which is consigned to the earth towards the conclusion of the winter. At length arrives the happy period of harvest:

Mais le temps fuit: j'entends ou crois entendre

D'un vent plus chaud le souffle bienfaiteur:

Du rossignol la voix devient plus tendre,
 Réveille-toi, tardif agriculteur;
 Tes verds épis déjà montrent leurs fleurs;
 Vois se gonfler leur laiteuse semence,
 Ne permets pas à leur molle substance
 De s'endurcir par de trop longs délais;
 Crains et la rouille et le brouillard épais;
 Plus d'une fois sur ton blé jeune encore
 J'ai vu tomber les larmes de l'aurore.
 Il en est temps, cueille ces chalumeaux,
 Qui vont dans peu te payer tes travaux.
 Voici déjà qu'une leste bannière
 Conduit gaîment et filles et garçons,
 Qui dans les champs vont apporter la guerre.

Les voilà tous rangés en bataillons,
 Portant à terre une main désarmée,
 La paille cède à l'effort ravisseur;
 En courts faisceaux la dépouille est formée,
 Et sur la tête ou les bras du vainqueur,
 Suit dans ses murs la triomphante armée.

"Cours d'Etude pour la Jeunesse Française, contenant la Chronologie, la Géographie, la Mythologie; l'abrégé de l'Histoire Ancienne des Egyptiennes, des Phéniciens, des Assyriens, des Babylo niens, &c."—A Course of Study for the Youth of France, &c. by J. B. CASTILLE, an Instructor, 2 vols. 12mo.

This little elementary work is intended as a synopsis of every thing required for young people, until they shall have acquired the age of fifteen or sixteen. We perceive that the French seem no longer to deem Greek and Latin as heretofore, indispensably necessary for education.

"Remarqués Physiologiques sur la Physionomie de la Voix, faisant suite à un Article de Lavater sur le même Sujet."—Physiological Remarks, relative to the Physiognomy of the Voice, being the Continuation of an Article on the same Subject by Lavater; by L. J. MOREAU DE LA SARTHE.

Among other curious Remarks, the Author maintains that the Roman Orators had a greater energy of respiration, and better lungs, than those of modern days. This fact is deduced with some degree of probability, from the quantum of language usually contained within the compass of a single sentence.

"Le Prophétie de Cazotte, &c."—Cazotte's Prophecy, relative to the French Revolution, to which is added for the first time, Biographical Notes, calculated to afford an idea of the characters of all the persons alluded to.

This paper, was found in the port-folio of the late M. de la Harpe, at his death; and it is probable, that it was written after the period when he had abjured his former errors, and embraced the christian religion.

"It seems to me as if the following adventure

venture had occurred but yesterday, notwithstanding which it happened so early as the beginning of the year 1788. We were all at the table of one of our brethren of the Academy, a man of high rank, as well as a great wit. The company which was numerous, consisted of persons of all descriptions: magistrates, men of letters, academicians, &c. and the entertainment as usual was most excellent.

"At the dessert, the wines of Malvoisie and Constantia added to the gaiety usual in such company that sort of liberty, which had become fashionable: for the world had now arrived at such a pass, that every thing calculated to produce mirth was freely permitted.

"Chamfort had already read to us one of his tales, equally impious and libertine, and ladies of high rank had listened to him, without having once recourse to their fans. Next occurred a number of pleasantries relative to religion: one quoted a passage from 'La Pucelle,' and another repeated the following philosophical verses of Diderot*:

'Et des boyaux du dernier prêtre,
Serrez le cou du dernier roi!'

"This was applauded. A third arose, and holding in his hand a bumper of wine, 'Yes, Messieurs! (exclaimed he) I am equally certain that there is no God, as I am that Homer is a fool;' and in fact, he was to the full as certain of the one as the other.

"The conversation now became more serious, and the *revolution* produced by Voltaire, which was said to constitute his principal title to glory, produced general admiration: 'He has set the fashion to the age, in which he lived (exclaimed several), and is read in the anti-chamber, as well as in the saloon?'

"One of the guests told us, laughing aloud at the same time, that his hair-dresser had said to him while powdering his curls, 'I beg leave to assure you, Sir, that although I am no better than a miserable valet, yet I possess no more religion than my neighbours.'

"It was now concluded, that the great *Revolution* would not fail to be soon consummated, and that it became absolutely necessary superstition and fanaticism, should give place to philosophy; they

* Dionysius Diderot was born at Langres, in 1723. On settling at Paris early in life, he soon obtained friends by his wit and talents, and also distinguished himself greatly as a man of letters. Having been imprisoned for six months at Vincennes, by the jealousy of an arbitrary government, without trial, and per-

even began to calculate the probability of the epoch, and which of the society then present, might live long enough to behold the *Age of Reason*. The oldest complained, that they could not flatter themselves with the hope; those who were still young, rejoiced at the idea of having a prospect of beholding the event; and they congratulated the Academy in particular for having prepared the grand-work, and been the centre, the headquarters, and the *primum mobile* of the liberty of thought.

"Meanwhile, one of the guests had not participated in the joy diffused around by means of this conversation; nay he had slyly uttered several pleasantries at our extraordinary enthusiasm.

"This proved to be Cazotte*, a man at once amiable and original, but unhappily infatuated with the reveries of the *Illuminati*. He now assumed a serious tone, and addressed himself to the company as follows:

'Gentlemen (says he), rest satisfied; for you will all behold that grand and sublime revolution, which you are so desirous of. You know, that I have somewhat of the prophet in my composition. I repeat to you again, that you will witness what you so ardently desire!'

haps also without a crime, he seized every opportunity, to vent his rage against oppression.

As one of the authors of the "Encyclopédie," he had an opportunity of disseminating his principles, and died in 1784, possessed of a high and exalted reputation.

* He was a man of letters, who among other productions, had written the "Poème d'Olivier," the "Diable Amoureux," which is alluded to, in the course of this pretended conversation, &c. &c.

He had been originally commissary-general of the French Windward Islands, and during the revolution appears to have resided at Pierry in Champagne, with his family, which was numerous.

M. de la Harpe, knowing that he was addicted to mysticism, and believed in the ridiculous doctrines of the *Illuminés*, makes him appear, on this occasion, in the character of a prophet.

Cazotte having been accused of royalism, was committed to the Abbaye at Paris, in August 1792, and only escaped from the massacre of September, in consequence of the filial piety of his daughter, then between sixteen and seventeen years of age. She threw her arms around his neck, covered his body with her own, and disputed for it as it were with the horrid assassins, who, although steeped in blood, appeared on this occasion to have for once melted into pity. Mademoiselle Cazotte afterwards accompanied the old man, (for he was then 74 years of age) to the

"They immediately answered him in the words of Vaudeville:

"Faut pas être grand sorcier pour ça!"

"Be it so (added he), but perhaps it might be a little necessary for what remains to be told. Do you know what will arise out of that *Revolution*, what will occur to you yourselves, who are here assembled, and what will be the immediate effect and consequence of it?"

"Ah! let us see (says Condorcet with his simpleton air, and saturnine smile), a philosopher is not sorry to meet with a prophet."

"You M. de Condorcet*, you will ex-

Conciergerie, where he was transferred, and attended upon him until the moment of his execution, in consequence of a sentence of the Revolutionary Tribunal.

* Marie-Jean-Antoine Nicholas Caritat, Marquis de Condorcet, was descended from a noble family, originally from the Comtat Venaissin. He was born at St. Quintin, on the 17th of September 1743, and having addicted himself from his youth to study, great hopes were entertained that he would distinguish himself in the career of the sciences, to which he particularly directed his attention.

He accordingly became the scholar of D'Alembert, and in 1767, published his first work, "*Essai d'Analyse*," which procured for him a brilliant reputation, so that during the administration of M. de Turgot, he was selected to assist that minister in all the operations which required an extensive knowledge of mathematics.

Condorcet was about this period admitted a member of the French Academy; and when the Revolution occurred, his reputation added dignity and credit to the popular cause. After acting a distinguished part, he was included by Robespierre in the proscription of nearly all the great and able men who remained in France, and was obliged to seek an asylum in the house of a female Parisian, who had compassionated his misfortunes.

In 1794, he was obliged to quit the place of his concealment, in consequence of the domiciliary visits that then took place, and having escaped from the capital in the disguise of a woman, he re-assumed his male attire, and endeavoured to shelter himself in the house of a friend, supposed to have been Garat, who had actually kept him for a few days locked up in one of the public offices, for he was at that time a minister of state. Having been disappointed, in consequence of the absence of the owner, he was forced by hunger to enter the town of Chalmars, and being discovered *devouring* rather than eating some food he had purchased, he was seized and interrogated.

On this occasion he passed by the name of Simon, and said he was an old servant out of employment; but on rifling his pockets, a Horace was discovered, with marginal notes

pire, stretched out on the floor of a dungeon; you will die of the poison which you are to swallow, with a view of preserving yourself from the executioner; the poison, which the *happiness* of those times will force you to carry constantly about you."

"Great astonishment ensued; but it was recollected, that the good Cazotte had been accustomed to dream awake, and the laugh increased.

"M. de Cazotte (says one), the story you have just told us, is not half so amusing as that of your *Diable Amoureux*. But what devil has stuffed your head with this dungeon, poison, and executioner? What has all this to do with *philosophy*, and the *reign of Reason*?"

"This is precisely what I now tell you: it is in the name of philosophy, of humanity, and liberty; and *under the reign of that very Reason*, that all this is to occur; and it will in reality prove the *reign of Reason*, for then she will have her temples, and moreover there will be no longer any other temples throughout the whole of France, at the period to which I now allude, than those erected to Reason."

"On my word (says Chamfort, with a sarcastic grin), you will not be one of the priests of those days!"

"I hope not (replies the other); but you M. de Chamfort*, who are very wor-

written in latin. Being suspected as an aristocrat, who had formerly servants of his own, he was confined in a cellar, where he was forgotten during twenty-four hours, and is said by some to have died of hunger, and by others to have ended his days by means of poison, furnished by his friend Garat. During his concealment, he composed a work on arithmetic, which was published after his death.

* Sebastian-Roch Nicholas Chamfort was born in 1741, in a little village near Clermont en Auvergne. He is supposed to have been the fruit of illicit love: certain it is, that he never knew the name of his own father; but he was greatly attached to his mother, and during the perplexities and embarrassments of his youth, he took care that she should never be destitute, for he even deprived himself at times of the necessities of life, in order to support her.

Having been admitted when a boy under the name of Nicholas, into the college of Grasseins, in quality of a *Boursier*, or pensioner, he remained there, without distinguishing himself by any excellence whatsoever, until his third year. Being then in what is called the *Rhetorical class*, he obtained the four first prizes; he failed however, at his attempt at Latin verses; but at the next exhibition he gained the whole five, archly observing, "that on the former occasion he had lost by imitating Virgil, while on that he had proved successful,

thy of the situation, and will actually become one, you are to cut your veins by means of twenty-two gashes made by your own razor, and yet notwithstanding this, your death will not occur until some months after.*

"On this, they stare at the narrator of future occurrences, and laugh again.

"As for you, M. Vic d'Azyr (continues he), you yourself will not open your veins, but you will cause them to be opened six times in the course of one day, during a fit of the gout, in order to be more certain of the event, and you will die during the night."

successful, because he had copied Buchanan and the moderns.

Soon after this, Chamfort ran away from college, and commenced Abbé, but he determined never to be a priest, for he observed to M. d'Aireaut, a professor, under whom he studied: "that he loved repose, philosophy, the ladies, and honor and true glory too much; and quarrels, hypocrisy, preferments and money, too little, for that station."

He next became author, and his first work was "*Le Vocabulaire Français*." Having at length turned his mind to poetry, and obtained the prize from the French Academy, for his "*Épître d'un Père à son Fils sur la Naissance d'un Petit-Fils*." He now began to be courted by the great, whom he in return always detested; yet he frequented their company, but it seemed as if it were solely for the purpose of ridiculing them. When the Revolution occurred, he lost the greater part of his pensions, &c. and yet he laughed at, and ridiculed Marmontel, for crying over his children on reading the decree that had suppressed all these appointments.

At this period Chamfort, openly embraced the cause of the popular party; but he detested all the excesses committed in the name of liberty, and he ridiculed the horrid motto of "*Fraternité ou la mort!*" the translation of which, he observed, was: "Be my brother, or I will kill you! The fraternity of such people," added he, "is the fraternity of Cain and Abel."

During the administration of the Girondists, he was nominated to the office of joint National Librarian, with an income of 4000 livres per ann. But on the triumph of Robespierre, and the Jacobins, he was denounced and imprisoned.

As confinement was more odious to him than death, he attempted to bereave himself of his existence, by means of a pistol; but he only shattered the bones of his nose, and drove in his right eye. He afterwards seized a razor, cut his throat and mangled his body in a terrible manner; on this, he ridiculed his own want of dexterity, and did not die, until some months after.

"And you, M. de Nicolai will perish on a scaffold; you M. Bailly will also finish your days in the same manner.—A similar fate is reserved for you M. de Malesherbes*"

"Ah! God be praised, (exclaims Roucher) it appears that *Monsieur* is ill-intentioned respecting the Academy alone; he has indeed committed terrible havoc; as for me, thank Heaven"

"As for you; you also must fall upon a scaffold."

"Oh! all this must be done for a wager (is repeated from every part of the saloon), he has sworn to exterminate us all!"

"No, it is not I who have so sworn."

"But in this case, are we not to be subjugated by the Turks and the Tartars? And —"

"No, not at all; I have already told you what is to occur — You will then be governed by *Philosophy* alone; by *Reason* alone. All those who you are to treat in this manner, will be *philosophers*, and will constantly have in their mouths, the self same phrases that you have quoted during the last hour; they will also repeat all your maxims, and like you will quote verses from Diderot and the Pucelle!"

"On this, a whisper passes from mouth to mouth, and from ear to ear through one part of the room: 'You perceive

* Christian-William de Lamoignon Malesherbes, one of the most celebrated and upright characters that France ever produced, was born Dec. 6, 1721. This respectable old man, after having become president of the *Cour des Aides*, and twice minister of state, retired from the service of his country, as if in order to dedicate himself to the domestic virtues. While invested with an office, that induced other men to make an arbitrary use of their authority, he as a secretary of state extended the liberty of the press, and not only abolished the uses but meditated the entire suppression of *Lettres de Cachet*.

While occupied in the country, chiefly in rural affairs, the Revolution occurred, Louis XVI. was brought to trial, and he, who had not been treated with much attention by the King (for he had resigned in disgust!), forgetting all personal consideration, offered himself as one of his defenders.

After discharging this painful duty, in the most honourable manner, he returned to the bosom of his family, but was soon after arrested, experienced a mock trial before a revolutionary tribunal at Paris, and was condemned to death, April 22, 1794.

He died as he had lived, exhibiting marks of the most unshaken courage and virtue, to the last hour of his existence.

that

that he is mad, for he preserves a most serious countenance!" In another part, it is said in a loud voice: "Do not you perceive that he is joking, for you well know, that somewhat of the marvellous always enters into his pleasantries."

"Yes (replies Chamfort), but his marvellous is deficient in respect to gaiety; his jokes have too much of the gallows in them; and pray when is all this to occur?"

"Six years will not pass away, when all that I have said is to be fully accomplished."

"Here is plenty of miracles, observed one (it was I myself who spoke), and don't you dispose of me on this occasion?"

"You will be a miracle, at least as extraordinary as any of the rest,—for you will then become a christian!"

Great and general exclamations on the part of the whole company now took place.

"Ah! (cries Chamfort), I am at length comforted; if we are not to perish until La Harpe turns christian, we must prove immortal!"

"On this occasion, (adds Madame la Duchesse de Grammont*) we ladies appear to be very fortunate, as we are to take no part whatsoever in these *revolutions*. When I say *no part*, I don't mean that we shall not always intermeddle a little; but it seems to be allowed, that we are not to suffer on this occasion; our sex—"

"Your sex, ladies, will not defend you on the present occasion; and your intermeddling or not, will prove of no manner of service, as you will be treated exactly like men, without any other difference whatsoever."

"But what do you mean by all this, M. de Cazotte? Is it the end of the world, that you are preaching up!"

* This distinguished lady was a daughter of the celebrated family of Choiseul, which had given a prime minister (M. le Duc de Choiseul), and an ambassador, a man of letters (Le Comte de Choiseul-Gouffier), to France. Her name was Beatrix, she was born at Lunéville, resided at Paris, and was condemned to death by the Revolutionary Tribunal of that city, on the 3d of Floréal, in the second year of the pretended Republic, under the frivolous pretext of being "counter-revolutionary."

Her husband, the Duke de Grammont, was descended from the celebrated count of the same name, who visited England, during the reign of Charles II. and whose *Memoirs* are entitled in 2 vols. 4to. by his relative count Anthony Hamilton.

"I know nothing as to that, but what I know is, that you Madame la Duchesse—you will be conducted to the scaffold, together with many other ladies, in the same sledge with an executioner, with your hands tied behind your back."

"Ah! I hope, that in that case, I shall at least have a carriage covered with black."

"No, Madam! still greater ladies than you will be conducted in a sledge, with their hands tied like yours!"

"Greater ladies! what! the princesses of the blood royal?"

"Still greater—"

"Here considerable commotion took place on the part of the whole company, and the countenance of our host began to turn pale: in short, it was generally agreed, that the pleasantry was rather carried too far. Meanwhile, Madame de Grammont, by way of dissipating the cloud, did not insist on replying to the last part of the speech, and contented herself by observing in a gay and indifferent tone, 'You perceive, that he will not even allow me a confessor!'

"No, Madam! neither you, nor any other female will have one. The last person executed who will obtain one, and that too as a favour, will . . ."

"On this M. de Cazotte stopped a moment, as if to recollect himself."

"Eh! very good! who then, is to be that happy mortal, who will enjoy this distinguished prerogative?"

"It is the only one that will remain to him—it will be the king of France."

"On this the master of the house started up from his chair, and all his guests rose at the same time. He then advanced towards the last speaker, and addressed him as follows, with an uncommon degree of earnestness: 'My dear M. de Cazotte, this mournful kind of pleasantry has arrived quite far enough. You have indeed carried it too far; even so as to endanger the whole company present; as well as yourself!'

"Cazotte did not say a single word in reply, and was about to retire, when Madame Grammont, who was still desirous to avoid whatsoever had the appearance of seriousness, and restore gaiety, advanced towards him: 'Sir Prophet, who has told all our fortunes, you conceal every thing respecting your own?'

"After remaining some time in silence, with his eyes fixed to the ground, he resumed as follows: 'Have you read, Madam, the *Siege of Jerusalem*, as described in Josephus?'

"Oh!

"Oh! undoubtedly; who has not perused that book?—But go on exactly as if I had not."

"Well, then, Madam, during that siege, a man walked round the ramparts during seven successive days, in sight of both the besiegers and the besieged, crying aloud incessantly with a thundering and ill-boding voice: 'Woe to Jerusalem!' on the seventh day, he exclaimed, 'woe to Jerusalem, woe to myself!' and at that moment, an enormous stone, launched from one of the enemy's engines, struck, and cut him in pieces."—After this reply, M. Cazotte, made his bow and departed."

It is pretty evident, that the above article was written by M. de la Harpe, after he had changed his party. On this occasion he was determined to abuse the philosophers, and throw as much odium on them as possible, not forgetting even Voltaire his benefactor. It is clear, however, from the History of the Revolution, that this class were uniformly the victims of the ferocious men who deluged France with blood.

"Entretien de Charlemagne et du Sénateur Tronchet, dans l'Elysée, sur l'Etat actuel de la France, et sur le Rétablissement de l'Université; par M. CROUZET, Membre de la Légion d'Honneur, associé de l'Institut National, et de la Société d'Agriculture de Calais, ancien Professeur de Rhétorique et Principal dans l'Université de Paris, Directeur des Etudes du Prytanée Militaire Français."—A Dialogue between Charlemagne and the Senator Tronchet in Elysium, relative to the present State of France, and the Re-establishment of an University; by M. Crouzet, a Member of the Legion of Honour, &c.

M. Crouzet is one of the multitude of panegyrists of the emperor, with whom France indeed abounds; and he has been at great pains to pay his compliments, by means of the present, as well as two former publications, the one entitled: "Carmen in sacram Inunctionem Napoleonis;" the other "Le Français au tombeau d'Homere." A new occasion now presents itself, for gratulation: the intended revival of the once celebrated university of Paris, in which the author held a distinguished place!

This event has been celebrated in Latin verses, which are translated or rather imitated in French. The subject is introduced with an account of the arrival of Tronchet in the Elysian fields, where he is immediately greeted, we are told, by a number of heroes. Charlemagne, sur-

rounded "by a whole court of kings," asks if it be true, that Napoleon, of whom he has heard so much, has become his equal at least, in the arts both of peace and war? Tronchet, of course answers in the affirmative, and seizes this opportunity, to enumerate the "miracles" of his reign.

The interview begins with a couplet, which appears to have been closely imitated from Racine:

"Un bruit qui m'a paru digne à peine de foi,
Du séjour des vivans est venu jusqu'à moi."*

The following quotation is meant to convey an idea of the horrors of anarchy, during the crisis of the late Revolution:

"Scilicet humanæ divinis undique leges
Pugnabant, priscisque novæ, licitoque nefas-
tum,
Virtutisque scelus. Ruerant solium, ara, tri-
bunal.

Afflictæ patriæ jam nulla columna manebat.
Tanta ruinarum quanto vertenda labore
Congeries fuit, ut sancti vestigia juris
Deleteret! Mox inde tamen pulcherrimus ordo
Exstitit; eversis majestas reddita templis,
Justitiæ lances, sceptro reverentia, cuique
Jus, fortuna, salus, et opes et gloria genti.
Terror ab innocuis ad conscia corda reversus
Et tandem claudo tetigit pede pœna scelestos."

Dans quel affreux chaos nous étions re-
plongés!

Thémis était en proie au stupide Vandale;
Son temple n'était plus qu'un ténébreux dédale,
Où, sous l'amas confus des plus bizarres lois,
Étaient ensevelis la justice et les droits;
Où triomphait l'audace, ou siégeait l'ignorance,
Ou le crime insolent ajournait l'innocence.
Et quel asile alors restait à la vertu?
Trône, autel, tribunal, tout était abattu.
Napoléon paraît: Thémis reprend son glaive;
Plus pompeux, plus puissant, le trône se relève;
L'autel sort de sa cendre, et la religion
De son libérateur bénit l'auguste nom.
Tout est changé: l'effroi rentre au sein du
coupable,

Le remords le déchire et la honte l'accable.
Le faible est secouru, l'orphelin protégé,
Et du méchant enfin l'homme juste est vengé."

"Mémoires sur la Revolution de Pologne, &c.†"—Memoirs relative to the Revolution in Poland, discovered at Berlin; preceded by an historical Enumeration of the Cause and Events that produced the Dismemberment of Poland.

The memoirs here published, are ad-

* Un bruit assez étrange est venu jusqu'à moi,
Je l'ai jugé, Seigneur, trop peu digne de
foi."
RACINE.

† Imported by M. de Boffe, Nassau-street,
Soho square.

dressed

dressed to the empress Catherine II. by her Quarter-master-General, M. de Pistor. They are two in number; the first treats of the revolution that took place at Warsaw, on the 6th of April 1794, and presents extensive and circumstantial details, relative to the measures adopted by the Russian chiefs, to prevent the events that ensued. The second, contains an account of the operations of the campaign that ensued, and both of them were presented to her imperial majesty, in January 1796. Their author, M. de Pistor, who was one of the officers appertaining to the staff of General Igelstrom, he re-endeavours to prove, that none of the misfortunes that ensued, can be justly attributed to him. He at the same time frankly avows, that faults had been committed, and he points out the officers who were guilty.

Throughout the whole of the details, the writer appears in the character of a subject of a despotic monarchy, and affects to believe that Russia possessed legitimate claims to the sovereignty of an ancient, independent republic! The conduct of the Diet of Warsaw is accordingly complimented with the epithet of "insurrectionelle," and that of the Polish nation is, with equal truth, considered as factious. He wished to treat the whole country, as in a state of rebellion, and therefore was for seizing all the forts and arsenals, and subjecting every portion of it, even those territories which remained neutral, or obedient to Russia, to all the horrors of military law!

The Quarter-master General appears to have anticipated every thing, but the singular courage of the people, and the celebrated victory of Kosciusko at Raszewic, where a body of peasants, ill armed and without discipline, penetrated through the Russian ranks, so that the imperial troops were obliged to retire from the centre. Immediately after this, the insurrection extended to the palatinates of Chelm and Lublin: the occupation of Warsaw enabled it to spread throughout the remainder of Poland.

It was thus, by means of a class of men, whom he qualifies with the names of *brigands*, of *populace*, and of *revolters*, that the capital was at length evacuated on the part of nine battalions and two companies, besides eight squadrons of horse, supported by 36 field-pieces, without reckoning the Prussians encamped in the neighbourhood.

In the second memoir, the author finds himself obliged to treat the "insurgents"

with less scorn. He acknowledges the disputes that had taken place between the Russian and Prussian officers, and attempts to justify himself in respect to the disastrous events that had occurred. He fairly allows, however, that his own soldiers were not blameless.

"What has greatly diminished the number of our troops," says he, "is pillage—many of them having entered the city for that purpose. A body of them having been found searching for booty, during the night, in the quarter of Leschno, several of the inhabitants repaired to the commandant of the Polish troops near the arsenal, in order to demand assistance. This was at length afforded; a party of soldiers having been marched expressly for that purpose, and these immediately began to massacre all the stragglers: no less than 200, all of whom were intoxicated, perished in one cellar. A hundred on this retired to a house, near the street of the Franciscans, and being at length forced to surrender, they also were put to death."

By way of introduction to the whole, the editor has given a summary of the History of Poland; and he there lays down two principles, of which the present work is adduced as a proof and confirmation. The first is, that, for a long series of years, Russia had conceived, meditated, and prepared a system of usurpation in respect to the country in question; that this dangerous neighbour had been the constant fomentor of all the intrigues, of all the troubles, and of all the factions which have desolated that nation; that its disunion constituted its ruin, and that its ruin was the constant invariable aim of the court of St. Petersburg.

The second is, that the system of an elective monarchy, adopted by the Poles, exposed them to periodical convulsions and to interminable civil strife. At each succeeding election, ambition of every kind, both national and foreign, was engendered, which ended at length in their subjugation by the neighbouring nations that had conspired against them.

After this, the author points out the different epochs when Russia manifestly displayed her intentions to infringe on the rights of an independent country. He recalls to the memory of his readers "the forced election" of Poniatowski, the alliance of Catherine II. with Frederick, called the Great; the stipulation of certain secret articles relative to the republic;

public; the formation of an auxiliary Russian army for the service of Poland; the vast projects of the empress relative to Moldavia, Wallachia, and the Morea; the violence committed against the Polish nobles; in short, the famous Declaration of the 2d of September, 1772, "a monument of iniquity, that aroused the whole nation, and produced the fatal epoch when the first partition of territory took place."

The editor, who is perhaps rather induced by the occurrence of recent events, than the love of liberty, to attack the courts of Berlin and Petersburg, concludes with a quotation from Burke, in which that orator observes, "that the states of Europe will some day lament that they had tolerated the consummation of so great an iniquity, and those more especially which had taken an active part in it."

DRAMA.

"La Mort du Henri IV. Tragédie en cinq actes, & en vers."—The Death of Henry IV. a Tragedy of five Acts, in Verse. By M. LEGOUVE, of the Institute.

This tragedy, the composition of one of the most celebrated literary men now existing in France, has given birth to many quarrels and much abuse among the Parisian critics. It is termed by one party, a most excellent dramatic work, in point of structure, while the poetry is accounted very fine, and the whole deemed worthy of the talents of the author.

On the other hand, it has been asserted, that M. Legouv  has violated history, as the assassination of his hero proceeded not from a conspiracy, but the misguided fanaticism of a single, insulated, and deluded wretch. It is added at the same time, that the disputes between Henry and his queen were mere domestic jars, calculated for a comedy alone.

To this their opponents rejoin, that the proofs of a horrid and successful combination are founded on the authorities of Daniel, De Bury, De M zerai, De Prefice. To these, they say, may be added, "Les M moires de Sully & de Cond ," "Le Journal de Henri IV." "L'Etoile," "Le Mercure de France, ann e 1610," "L'Histoire Universelle;" "l'Intrigue de Cabinet," &c. They at the same time affirm, in respect to the second charge, that according to the mode of reasoning adopted on this occasion, the fine tragedies of Andromaque, Mithridate, and Zaire, ought never to have been written. In short, if we are to give credit to some

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part of the recrimination, a most extraordinary class of men has sprung up in France:

"A collection of pedants and of monks," say they, "escaped from the abolished cloisters and colleges, have united to speculate relative to those follies of which they are the apostles. Some of them, the younger children of Loyola, wish to revive in France the ridiculous quarrels relative to quietism; others, the sanguine disciples of the Sorbonne, endeavour to restore the theological inquisition: all labour for the same end—to mislead public opinion, to foment hatred, and to take advantage of disorder.

"The private lives of peaceable citizens are not sheltered from their researches; their writings are exactly in the same style as those homicidal denunciations, those perfidious accusations, which took place during the reign of terror. And is this astonishing? One of their colleagues was secretary to the infamous Marat.

"Although they appear to unite in the praises of the hero of France, yet some of them still carry in their pockets, either the *bonnet-rouge*, which covered their heads while members of the revolutionary committees, or the amnesty of the Bourbons, whose cause they have advocated. They proclaim themselves the apostles of religion, the friends of morals and of their country; and yet we behold among them those furious men who invited foreigners into France; those fanatics who caused the unhappy Vend ans to be murdered; those spies, paid by all parties, and who by turns wore the livery of all!"

We now return, after this short digression, to the tragedy in question.

Henry announces to his council the design he had long meditated, of repairing to Flanders, where he intends to attack the Spaniards, who had assembled a numerous body of troops there. On the departure of the other members, the prince remains closetted with Sully and, opening his mind to that minister, discloses the chagrin experienced, in consequence of the jealousy and haughtiness of Mary de Medicis, his consort. The duke in some measure exculpates the queen, by reminding the sovereign of his own indiscretions; afterwards he advises his majesty to conciliate her affection. An interview accordingly takes place, when Henry addresses his consort as follows:

LE ROI.

"Reine, avant de partir
Pour les bords o  la guerre est pr te   re-
tentir,

4 T

Jo

Je viens vous confier la suprême puissance :
Eh ! qui peut mieux que vous réparer mon
absence ?

Mais lorsqu'à votre cœur je cède désormais
Le pouvoir si touchant de verser des bienfaits,
Laissez-moi voir, pour prix des dons de ma
tendresse,

De vos yeux abattus s'éloigner la tristesse,
Et de ce front charmant les ombres, les cha-
grins

Se perdre dans l'éclat de vos nouveaux des-
tins."

Mary being greatly affected with this unexpected instance of confidence, immediately beseeches the king not to hazard his person, but confide the command of the troops to some general who possessed his confidence. On this his majesty replies in the following strain:—

"J'ai du commandement promis de me char-
ger ;

La parole d'un roi ne doit jamais changer.
Voulez-vous qu'évitant de tenir ma promesse
Je me laisse accuser d'une lâche faiblesse ?
D'ailleurs, quand mes soldats vont sur des
bords lointains

Chercher de longs travaux et des périls cer-
tains,

Resterai-je paisible au sein de ma famille,
Comme ces rois couchés au trône de Castille,
Qui, captifs couronnés, dans un repos hon-
teux

Vivent loin des combats où l'on périt pour
eux ?

N'attendez pas de moi cet effort impossible.
Mes sujets à leurs pleurs m'ont toujours vu
sensible ;

Ils ne me verront pas, à leur sang étranger,
Leur prescrire un péril et non le partager.

Je prétends affronter ceux que je leur ap-
prête ;

Et je cours triompher ou mourir à leur tête."

Meanwhile the Spanish minister has made a party at court, and even conceived the plan of a conspiracy against the life of Henry IV. in which the poet by implication intimates that Mary and the Duc d'Epéron have entered. This is supposed to have been brought about by jealousy, the disaffected having spread a report that the king of France was about to enter Flanders from no other motive than his affection for the Princess de Condé, whose husband was greatly alarmed on the occasion.

At length the plot is carried into execution, notwithstanding the queen is supposed to have relented, and Sully, repairing to the palace, recites to her the mournful catastrophe:—

SULLY.

"Des citoyens les transports douloureux
Egalent la rigueur de ce coup désastreux.

Quel spectacle !—D'abord la voiture fermée
A caché son trépas à leur vue alarmée ;
Et ses restes sanglants vers ces augustes lieux
S'avançaient ramenés d'un pas silencieux.
De ce sombre mystère encor plus inquiète,
La foule les suivait triste, pâle, muette,
Et semblait, en silence attendant son malheur,
Dans son ame tremblante amasser la douleur.
Mais à peine on arrive, à peine se découvre
Ce corps inanimé que l'on transporte au Lou-
vre,

Ce ne sont que des cris, des larmes, des san-
glots ;

L'air au loin retentit de ces lugubres mots :
'Malheureux, que du ciel accable la colère,
'Nous perdons dans ce jour notre appui, notre
père !

'Quel exécrable monstre a pu percer jamais
'Ce cœur, qui chaque jour médita des bien-
faits ?'

En rapellant ainsi sa bonté, sa vaillance,
Le peuple sur son corps avec ardeur s'élance ;
Il le couvre de pleurs, cherche à le ranimer
En l'approchant des cœurs dont il se fit aimer.
Mais, trop sûrs que ce soin ne peut rien pour
sa vie,

Leur chagrin s'aigrissant va jusqu'à la furie.
Les uns poussent au ciel les plus horribles
vœux ;

D'autres frappent leur sein, arrachent leurs
cheveux ;

Ceux-ci courent au loin comme des frénétiques ;
Ceux-là du Louvre même embrassent les por-
tiques ;

Plus d'un y tombe mort ; plus d'un autre en
hurlant

Se roule et se meurtrit sur le pavé sanglant ;
Enfin chacun maudit ou veut fuir la lumière,
Et l'affreux désespoir remplit la ville entière.
Ah ! qui mérita mieux de si touchans regrets ?
Sa mort ne mettra pas en deuil les seuls Fran-
çais ;

Elle ira, de sa gloire en tous lieux escortée,
Jeter l'affliction dans l'Europe attristée ;
De nos ennemis même elle obtiendra les
pleurs ;

Elle sera l'objet des plus longues douleurs ;
Et, parlant comme nous de ce roi qu'on adore,
Nos derniers descendans le pleureront encore.

LA REINE.

Et moi, je n'obtiendrai que leur haine à ja-
mais.

Que vais-je devenir en ce triste palais ?
Odieuse à la France, odieuse à moi-même—
O malheureux objet de ma douleur extrême,
Laisse-moi dans ta tombe—Il la ferme en
fureur !"

"Pyrrhus, ou les Eacides, tragédie."
Pyrrhus, or the Eacides, a tragedy.

The ground work of this tragedy is to be found in Plutarch, but the manner in which the author has thought fit to adapt it to the stage, the situations which he has conceived, the plot which he has contrived, together with his manner of un-
folding

folding it, all appertain to himself. In short, with some little allowances, it may be considered entirely as a work of imagination.

Care has been taken to seize the most favourable opportunities, and to represent Pyrrhus during his youth, and at the precise period when he had ascended the throne. The hero is accordingly depicted as boiling with ardour, replete with the love of glory, and burning with a desire to imitate the deeds of Achilles, whom he takes for his model.

Pyrrhus, the son of king Æacus, having been saved from the fury of his father's revolted subjects, by means of Amestris, the consort of an usurper, is secretly brought up, under the name of Agenor. Supposing that he had no ancestors to boast of, the youth determines to create for himself a name, and become like the followers of the Macedonian hero:

"Soldats sous Alexandre & rois après sa mort."

In the mean time Epirus is besieged, and Alcetas, the reigning monarch, having been informed of the birth and pretensions of the young hero, presents his daughter, and at the same time confers his crown by way of a marriage-portion.

Phanes, the general of the enemy's army, now makes his appearance, and discloses a secret of no little magnitude to Agenor, known by the name of Pyrrhus: in short, he tells him that his father had escaped from the hands of assassins, was alive, and at that moment addressed himself to him. Æacus (for so he proves to be) at the same time intreats his son to assist in a plot that had been entered into for putting Alcetas to death. The son for a long time struggles between duty on one hand and gratitude on the other; but at length decides, in a second interview, as he had now found the author of his being, not to cloud so joyful an event with scenes of vengeance. On this Phanes retires in indignation to his camp; and he having perished soon after in action, Pyrrhus is proclaimed king.

The three first acts of this tragedy were listened to with great attention, and some of the incidents being truly dramatic, the audience appeared to be greatly delighted; but the fourth and fifth did not realize the expectations which had been conceived during the antecedent ones. Notwithstanding this,

when the curtain dropped, the *parterre*, or pit, of the *Theatre Français* demanded the name of the author, who proved to be M. LE HOC.

"1ere Journée, Henri Roi de Navarre a la Cour de France; 2me Journée, Henri IV. au Camp, ou la Bataille d'Ivry; 3me Journée Henri IV. sur le Trône, ou son Entrée a Paris."—1st Day, Henry King of Navarre at the Court of France; 2d Day, Henry IV. in the Camp, or the Battle of Ivry; 3d Day, Henry IV. on the Throne, or his Entry into Paris.

This is a dramatic piece of no less than fifteen acts, which occupied three whole nights in the representation! Such an entertainment may be supposed to be novel; but it bears some affinity to the ancient mysteries, and also resembles the dramatic cycles of Schiller, which have been introduced on the German stage.

"Omasis, ou Joseph en Egypte, tragédie en cinq Actes."—Omasis, or Joseph in Egypt, a tragedy in five acts.

There have been no less than three dramatic pieces entitled "Joseph," on the French stage, and two of these were comedies; the third was a tragedy, by the author of *Penelope*. The audience at the *Theatre Français* seem to have been greatly pleased with the representation of "Omasis."

"La Manie de Briller, comédie en trois actes."—The Rage to Shine, a comedy in three acts.

This little dramatic piece was performed at the *Théâtre de l'Impératrice*, and is the production of PICARD. The basis of French comedy is generally founded on the vanity of women, the folly of their husbands, and the emulation and love of luxury which induce a beautiful female to ruin herself and family by extravagance. Here, on the other hand, instead of a heroine of this description, we are presented with a virtuous woman, simple alike in her manners and her taste.

The audience appeared delighted with the piece, and Picard himself performed the part of the good husband, whom he had so successfully portrayed.

POETRY.

"Almanach des Dames, pour l'an 1807."—The Lady's Almanack, for the Year 1807.

We shall here present our readers with a specimen of the poetry in an Anacreontic Ode, the production of M. LE BRUN:

4 T 2

"Anacréon

"Anacréon sut plaire aux belles
Malgré ses quatre-vingts hivers ;
Et les Graces, toujours fidelles,
Le couronnaient de myrthes verds.

Pindare, en cygne d'Aonie,
D'un siècle traversant le cours,
Plus cher encore à Polymnie,
Chantait la gloire et les amours.

Sophocle, à son vingtième lustre,
De Melpomène eut les faveurs.
J'aime à voir leur vieillesse illustre
Cueillir des lauriers et des fleurs.

Ma lyre aussi n'est pas muette ;
Le Pinde a répété mes vers.
Liberté, je fus ton poète,
Amour, je célébrai tes fers.

Me jeunes pas suivaient les traces
Des dieux de Gnide et de Claros ;
Je puis encor chanter les Grâces,
Je chante encore les héros.

Là je soupire avec Tibulle ;
Là Tyrtée enflamme ma voix ;
Ici je lance avec Catulle
Les traits malins de son carquois.

Si, dans mes yeux moins diaphanes,
Le jour ne brille qu'à moitié,
Heureux, je vois moins de profanes,
J'en suis plus cher à l'amitié.

Les Graces, d'une main charmante,
Daignent souvent guider mes pas ;
Je crois retrouver une amante
Quand leur bras s'enlace à mon bras.

Eh ! pourrais-je la méconnaître ?
Mon cœur palpite à ses accens :
Nouveau Titon, je vais renaître !
Une autre Aurore a mon encens."

"Le Souper."—The Supper.

These verses, from which we shall give only a short extract, have been well received in Paris. They are written on the return of an exile, who had been accustomed to delight the Parisians with his festivities.—

"C'est à souper qu'Horace vous convie,
Illustre ami d'Auguste et des beaux-arts :
C'est aujourd'hui que l'année accomplit
A ramené le premier jour de Mars,
Epoque affreuse à-la fois et chérie
Où votre ami courut tant de hasards.
Fêtez le dieu qui protégea sa vie ;
Venez, Mécène, en l'honneur de Bacchus,
Vider cent fois cette coupe remplie
Du même vin dont s'enivra Tullus.
Déjà de fleurs la table est parfumée,
Toute la nuit prolongez le festin,
Et, dès le soir, que la cire allumée
Porte ses feux jusqu'à ceux du matin."

"Achille à Scyros, poème en six Chants; par J. CH. J. LUCE DE LANCIVAL, Professor de Belles-lettres au Lycée Imperial."—Achilles at Scyros, a poem

in six Cantos; by J. Ch. J. Luce de Lancival, Professor of Belles-lettres at the Imperial Lyceum. 2d Edition.

Achilles is here represented as bred under the care of Chiron. His mother, alarmed at the response of the oracle relative to his destiny, repairs to Thes-saly, for the express purpose of demanding her son from the Centaur. After describing the grotto inhabited by them, the author next portrays his hero:—

"A grand cris, à grands pas, plein d'une ar-deur guerrière,
Achille arrive enfin, tout couvert de poussière :

Mais tel qu'il est, le front dégoûtant de sueur,
Rembruni de fatigue et sombre de terreur,
Et malgré la poussière, et sous le poids des armes,

Superbe, sa figure offre encore mille charmes.
Son regard étincelle, et sur son cou nerveux
Serpente en longs anneaux l'or de ses blonds cheveux ;

Sur son jeune menton, un duvet près d'éclorre,
Fait deviner son sexe et marque son aurore :
Une grace céleste ajoute à tant d'attraits,
Et sa mère se peint dans presque tous ses traits ;

Tel on voit Apollon, quand des bois de Lycie,
Il retourne vainqueur aux bosquets d'Aonie,
Et déposant son arc, terrible même aux dieux,
Reprend en souriant son luth harmonieux."

While Chiron prepares a rural feast for Thetis and her son, the latter recounts the particulars of his education ; and after describing his exploits against lions, tigers, boars, &c. proceeds as follows:—

"J'arrête, seul, à pied, quatre coursiers fougueux

Faissant, d'un vol égal, rouler un char poudreux.

J'arrache, d'une main courageuse et prudente,
Les débris enflammés d'une chaumière ardente.
Il m'en souvient, grossi de cent tributs nouveaux,

Le Sperchius roulait le torrent de ses eaux ;
Il a franchi ses bords—dans le lieu même où l'onde,

Avec plus de fureur, bondit, écume et gronde,
Chiron veut que, debout, d'un pied victorieux,

Défendant le passage aux flots séditieux,
J'ose soutenir, seul, l'effort de la tempête ;
Il est là, l'œil ardent, suspendu sur ma tête,
M'exhorte, m'applaudit, me gourmande à la fois,

Me défend de céder. J'obéis à sa voix,
Et du fleuve indigné, que l'obstacle tourmente,

Je repousse vingt fois la furie écumante :
Tant les plus grands périls ont d'attrait pour mon cœur."

REMARKS

REMARKS ON THE MORGANTE MAGGIORE OF LUIGI PULCI,
(Concluded from page 442 of this Volume.)

A FEW more friends and followers had now joined the little band of warriors, Avino, Avolio, Duke Richard, Egibard, and the three Anjolins; and the ambassador was scarcely departed before the out-posts of the enemy were visible from the hills round Roncesvalles. Orlando is still slow to suspect treason; but Guottiboffi, a Burgundian, and one of his band of officers, foresees the gathering mischief, and takes measures to fortify their little camp. The night passed away sad and sorrowfully to all. Oliver was warned, by a terrible dream, of the approaching tempest. Even Orlando felt presages of his fate, but scorned to betray any symptoms of alarm. Early in the morning Oliver ascended a hill, and from thence beheld the whole host of Marsilius advancing in battle-array, and the countless standards of the nations that composed it. He called Orlando to join him, and that renowned hero soon surveyed the dismal spectacle with his own eyes. He then looked back upon Roncesvalles, and, weeping for his ill-fated companions, exclaimed, "Oh, sad and sorrowful valley! This day shall be for ever noted with blood."

After this, no farther possibility of delusion remained for them. Even a retreat was impossible; and not a soul there but would have shunned to entertain a thought of submission. The most vigorous preparations were made for the bloody sacrifice, which alone remained for them to offer up; and Orlando went about to all of them, one by one, encouraging and exhorting them singly to die for the honour of Christianity as gallantly and nobly as they had lived.

The confused shout of arms proclaimed the enemy at hand; and the melancholy sound of the trumpets blown that day in Roncesvalles, might be compared to the trump that is to call the dead to their last judgment. All the Paladins assembled at the sound, and Orlando wept aloud when he beheld so many victims to their affection for him. Oliver spoke to him with tenderness and affection, but could not help expressing his regret that he had not before listened to the many warning voices that had foretold to him the treachery of Marsilius, to which Orlando made no answer, but shewed his contrition by his silence; and then, in a loud and encouraging voice, thus harangued his little army of brothers:—

"Could I have thought that in the human heart

Such hellish treason could a lodging find,
I would have played a soldier's better part,
Not thus, untimely, to my fate resigned,
But force opposed to force, and art to art.

For here I came, to peace and love inclin'd,

And thought, that love, which in my bosom burn'd

For all mankind, with equal love return'd.

"Yet the deceiver shall himself deceive,
On his own head the dreadful thunder call;

While ye, who in eternal truth believe,

Sure of approving heav'n, shall nobly fall:

Soon shall ye all rejoice, tho' now ye grieve,

Celestial manna shall succeed to gall;

If now your bread is mix'd with tears and sighs.

Your souls this night shall feast in Paradise.

"So to his Greeks the generous Spartan said;

Whose promises were far less sure than mine.

Hope, only hope, inspir'd them when they bled;

Your hope is faith, your promises divine!

See on his grate the martyr'd Lawrence spread;

Ev'n in the flames his eyes with transport shine,

And shew how sweet a thing it is to die
When the blest soul is rapt and fixed on high.

"And now, while little life is yet your own,
All fearless mingle in the bloody fray!

Now, Paladins, be all your prowess shewn;

So shall your bodies only die this day.

Now let the fathers by their sons be known,

And cast delusive, fruitless, hope away!

Fight not for life—caught in this fatal snare,
Our hope is death, our remedy, despair.

"And yet it grieves me, noble Charles, for thee;

That, after such high fame, thy noble head
Is doom'd, so sad, so dark, a change to see,

Thine honours blasted, and thy glory fled!

But ah! no human state from change is free,

Whole empires hang upon a slender thread;

And often fate, at Heav'n's appointed hour,

Exalts the meek, and blasts the proud man's pow'r.

"Also this faithful bosom bleeds for thee,

My brother, my Rinaldo! Once again

Might I that much lov'd form in battle see,

Proud in the field, and dreadful o'er the slain!

Ev'n while I speak, strange visions come to me,

Disorder'd phantoms crowd upon my brain;

I feel, I know, that with this mortal eye

I yet shall view Rinaldo ere I die.

"I fear

"I fear not death, but hope my worth to
shew,

And, nobly, on the bloody field to lie ;
To deal the wrath of Heav'n, and tenfold
woe,

On baneful fraud, and curs'd impiety.
Death is not to be fear'd, but when we know
The soul shall also, with the body, die ;
The loss of life is gain, if spirits flee
From this cold clay to immortality !

"Think how the self-devoted Decii died,
And many other gallant souls of yore,
Who fell, to satisfy a glorious pride,
And leave their mem'ries when they were
no more.

To you, Death is a pilot, and will guide
Your parted spirits to an happier shore.
Oh, how much greater than all earthly
love,
Is that which hopes and pants for things
above !

"And now, my friends and brothers, oh re-
ceive
The last fond blessing that your chief can
give !

Your parting souls shall holy Turpin shrieve,
Assur'd in heav'n eternally to live.
Ev'n now, in faith's bright mirror I perceive
The undoubted sign of your prerogative.
The gates of heav'n are open'd wide around,
And radiant angels guard the fatal ground."

Thus said, he once more vaulted on his
steed,

And loudly cried, "Now for our treache-
rous foes !"

Yet, when he saw his comrades doom'd to
bleed,

Some tender tears of human pity rose.

"Oh vale accurst !" he cried, "Oh vale,
decreed

For orphan's sufferings, and the widow's
woes !

The latest ages shall thy name deplore,
And mark with blood, till time shall be no
more !"

On every head the holy Turpin trac'd
A sacred cross, and benediction gave ;
And pardon'd them thro' him in whom were
plac'd

Their hope and trust, who died mankind to
save.

Then all the valiant band in tears embrac'd,
And drew their swords, and stood resolv'd
and brave ;

Almonte's banner wav'd their bands before,
The banner won in Aspramont of yore."

Canto 26, St. 24.

One of the last wishes expressed by
Orlando was, in effect, about to be grant-
ed him ; for Rinaldo, after an aërial voy-
age of three days from the pyramids of
Egypt, arrived at Roncesvalles before
the fatal conflict ended. The whole in-

fernal machinery of Astaroth and his at-
tendant spirit first making themselves
known to the Paladin and his brother
Richardetto, and of the Ethiopian plant
by which they were rendered invisible,
is managed with a great deal of spirit.
Astaroth entertains them with an account
of the state of Hell, the Laws of the
lower Empire, and the several ranks and
conditions of the Dæmons. When all is
ready for their departure, the two Dæ-
mons enter into the bodies of the
Knights' horses, and bear them on their
backs over hill and dale with greater
rapidity than imagination can conceive.
Their first halt is on the banks of the
African river Bagrada, where they are
provided by their infernal conductors
with a magnificent entertainment pre-
viously fetched from Marsilius's stores ;
and Rinaldo is a little scandalized at the
assurance of Astaroth, that their next
meal shall be taken out of the kitchen of
the Christian Emperor. The arrival of
the aërial voyagers at the straits of
Gibraltar, and pillars of Hercules, gives
occasion to a grave dissertation of the
Dæmon on an undiscovered hemisphere
existing far beyond those fabled limits of
the world. Pulci must have written be-
fore the first voyage of Columbus, so that
this passage is either a subsequent in-
terpolation, or is very remarkable in the
light of a prophecy of the astonishing
discovery that was shortly to be made.
The latter supposition is not perhaps im-
probable ; for Columbus's expectations
were formed on a solid theory, and were
long known and canvassed in many
societies throughout Spain and Italy.
Lorenzo de Medici cannot be supposed
to have been ignorant of them ; and
among the philosophers of his court, some
were, doubtless, inclined to favour the
belief. The ardent mind of a Poet is
still more likely to have caught at so sub-
lime a vision, and to have embodied it
into a real existence.

We cannot pursue this romantic journey
of the Dæmons and Paladins through all
its particulars, but will refer to the book
for the curious incidents relating to the
alexidæmonic Fountain at Toledo, the
Victory of Astaroth over the Spirit
Squarciaferro, and for the ludicrous ad-
venture at the Palace of Saragossa, where
Rinaldo enters invisible into the presence
of his *quondam* mistress, the fair Luciana,
for whom he feels his ancient passion re-
kindled. To amuse the Paladins for
some part of their voyage, Astaroth re-
sumes the unorthodox discourse that he
formerly

formerly held with Malagigi, and asserts our Author's favourite doctrine of Universal Salvation in strains of very sublime Poetry. He concludes thus:

Forse ch' è'l vero, dopo lungo errore
Adorerete tutti di Concordia,
E troverete ognun Misericordia!

The arrival of Rinaldo and Richardetto, with their aerial guides, determined the fortune of the first grand division of the Pagan army, and of the first day's battle, which had already inclined to favour the undaunted bravery and perseverance of Orlando and his companions. They alighted on the plain towards evening; and while the brothers of Montauban pressed forwards to assist their victorious friends, the Dæmons fixed their stand on a church-tower, where they employed themselves in catching the souls of the Pagans as they attempted to fly upwards from their bodies. The sudden apparition of two warriors descending from the skies, completed the rout and consternation of the enemy, and, night coming on, the Christians were left possessors of the field, and of the honours of victory. Rinaldo and Richardetto, weary with slaughter, pressed to the spot where the other Paladins were beginning to rest from their fatigues; and if their sudden appearance among the Pagans had filled the field with confusion and dismay, their re-union with their friends produced at least as sudden and wonderful an impression, though of a contrary nature. Orlando's joy exceeded all bounds of moderation, and Oliver fainted away at their approach. The feelings of the whole camp were in proportion, and the rejoicings which so happy an event occasioned, seemed to have charged the face of affairs, and substituted hope and confidence in the place of their late despair.

Orlando, however, as soon as the first transports were over, returned to a calm sense of the real condition of his little army. He took Rinaldo aside, and poured out to him his whole soul. "Tomorrow, my Cousin, if my mind deceives me not, we all must perish in this valley. But we shall first prove the deaths of so many Pagans, that the latest ages shall speak of Roncesvalles."

Mean time the morning dawned, and the second squadron of the enemy, commanded by the Traitor Blanchardin, followed closely by the third and grand division: there Marsilius himself presided, and had already taken the field. The whole work of carnage is described by Pulci, with Homeric precision, mixed

with romantic absurdity; we shall confine ourselves to the more natural and affecting passages. In Blanchardin's division fought a young Pagan, the son of that Old Man of the Mountains who had formerly accompanied Rinaldo, and fallen on the Christian side at the siege of Babylon. Having been falsely taught to attribute his father's death to the Paladins, he had engaged himself to Marsilius for the sake of revenge, and now had the fortune in the beginning of the engagement to fall into the hands of Orlando, who was on the point of putting him to death, but whose hand was arrested by his tears and supplications, and the discovery of his parentage.

Now, when Orlando heard the young man's pray'r,

Before his eyes the father's image stood,
By pity mov'd, he loos'd his twisted hair,
Embrac'd the boy, and with his tears bedew'd,

"Thy form, thy face, (he cried) the truth declare;

My ancient friend I here behold renew'd.
Yet, 'twas ill done, young warrior, to oppose
Thy father's friends, and arm to serve his foes!"

C. 26. St. 146.

With this gentle admonition he dismissed, promising, if he should meet him fifty times that day, to spare him for his father's sake; but he first received from him, in gratitude, intelligence of the supposed treachery of his follower, Baldwin, who was then clad in a vest of king Marsilius, known to all the Pagans, and preserved as by an Amulet from their arms. The relationship of this brave and unfortunate youth to the detestable Gano, confirmed the suspicion to which Orlando too lightly gave way:

Orlando now had left the old man's son,
And, warm in rage, sought Baldwin o'er the course,

Who call'd for death which seem'd his path to shun;

And turn no less adventurous heads its force:

At length he saw swift Vegliantino run
Hot o'er the field, (Orlando's well-known horse,)

And rush'd to meet his friend belov'd, and cried

"What woes, unfortunate! this head betide!
I seek, this day, among the brave to die,
And many Pagans by my hand lie slain,
But none against this arm their force will try:
I call, I challenge to the fight in vain!"

"False wretch," Orlando cried, "no more they'll fly,

Lay but that gaudy garment on the plain,
Which to thy traitor-sire Marsilius gave,
For which that traitor sold his son a slave."

"If

"If on this day," the unhappy youth replied,
 "These noble souls my father has
 betray'd;
 And if I'm curs'd to live, this hand shall
 guide,
 Keen to his heart the parricidal blade;
 But I, "Orlando," thus in tears he cried,
 Was never, never, for a traitor made,
 Unless I've earn'd the name in following
 thee,
 With firm and stedfast love o'er land and sea.
 "Now to the battle I return once more,
 The traitor's name I will not carry long:"
 The gaudy, fatal, vest away he tore,
 And said, "My love for thee was firm and
 strong;
 This heart, no guile, this soul no treason
 bore;
 Indeed, Orlando, thou hast done my wrong!"
 Then burst away: Orlando mark'd his air
 With aching heart that bled for his despair.

C. 27. St. 4.

Marsilius's division had by this time
 joined, and the work of death was com-
 menced among the christian heroes, who,
 strange to tell, had not before suffered
 any diminution of their numbers, though
 the field was loaded with slaughtered
 Pagans. The first of the martyrs was
 the gallant Sansonetto, who, like Bald-
 win, had followed Orlando over the
 world from strong and personal at-
 tachment. Walter de Montleon, and
 Anjolin of Bayonne, next fell beneath
 the swords of Marsilius and Grandonio;
 and Orlando coming up, discovered Oliver
 alone and oppressed by numbers, sur-
 rounded by his fallen companions. The
 resistless arm of the hero soon freed him
 from immediate danger, and he lamented
 with the sorrow of affection his faithful
 Sansonetto, whose corpse he gave to
 Terigi, to convey to the camp. Nor did
 he suffer him to remain unrevenged, for
 Grandonio soon after fell in single com-
 bat with Orlando, and Marsilius would
 have experienced the same fate, but for
 the interference of his own son, who in-
 tercepted the blow, and died at his feet.
 Just then, the appearance of a more ter-
 rible conflict, and of more general car-
 nage, called him to another part of the
 field of battle.

Rous'd by appalling sounds and barbarous
 cries,

Orlando hasten'd to the spot, and found,
 At his last gasp where hapless Baldwin lies,
 Pierc'd to the heart with no dishonest
 wound.

"I am no traitor now," he feebly cries,
 Then falls, a stiffen'd corpse, upon the
 ground;

With tears of grief, Orlando saw him die.

"Thy fate is seal'd, th' unhappy cause am I!"

The death of this ill-fated, but gene-
 rous youth, was shortly followed by those
 of Anjolin de Bellande, and of the bro-
 thers of St. Michel. To supply their
 places, Rinaldo and Richardetto, Eg-
 bard, Anselm, and the good and martial
 Archbishop, all rushed forwards. The
 battle became more and more tremen-
 dous, and the cries of war were mixed
 with the horrible shouts of Astaroth, and
 his Fellow-Dæmons, who were busily
 employed in their infernal pastime of
 catching the souls of the Pagans. The
 sun turned of a bloody red; Roncesvalles
 was crowded with devils seeking their
 prey, and there was a grand festival in
 the Palace of Pluto.

A braver champion than had hitherto
 fallen was now made a sacrifice to the
 sword of king Balsamin; Astolpho him-
 self, the good Duke of England, whose
 gallant actions on that, and the preceding
 day, had been innumerable. His dead
 body was discovered in the press by
 Rinaldo, and that illustrious warrior was
 not slow in revenging his fate. Mean-
 while the treacherous attack of the Ar-
 califf of Baldacca had inflicted a deep
 and deadly wound on the head of the
 Marquis Oliver, who was at the same
 moment engaged in single combat with
 another Pagan. His strength sufficed
 him to revenge the blow, and rid him-
 self of both his assailants; but soon his
 head turned giddy, his eyes swam in
 darkness, and staggering and reeling back
 towards the camp, but still cutting out a
 passage through the enemy, he was met
 in this deplorable condition by his noble
 brother:

Orlando felt his very bosom bleed

For Oliver, his friend and better part,
 For now he saw the battle lost indeed,

And curs'd the Pagan traitor from his
 heart.

"By ev'ry thought of love, and courteous
 deed,"

He cried, now faint, and staggering from
 the smart,

"Oh! lead me, where in death I may be
 known,

Nor leave me, unreveng'd, to die alone!"

"I have no heart, without thee," he replied,

"In this perplex'd and gloomy life to stay,
 I've bid adieu to daring joy and pride,

And human hope deserts my dark'ning
 day;

Love only can the fall of life abide;

Thy love, my Oliver, yet lights my
 way!

Oh! follow Oliver, that guiding love,
 With me, one death, one faith, one will

to prove!"

Thou

Thus said, they mingled in the thickest
fight;

Once more the dying warrior grasp'd his
blade,

And, though th' approach of death had
dimin'd his sight,

Among the ranks a bloody trophy made :
Close on the confines of eternal night,
Still his sad friend with wond'ring eye
survey'd,

Such acts as might have grac'd youth's vi-
gorous day ;

For the soul's fire surviv'd the strength's
decay.

Thus thro' the storm of swords and spears
they go,

Still dealing vengeance and despair around;
But Oliver, who now, more faint and slow,

The heavy hand of Death oppressive found,
Made for the tent ; the end of all his woe

He felt approaching from his mortal wound.

"Oh! yet a little wait!" Orlando cries,

"I'll sound my horn, assistance near us
lies."

"My cousin!" he replied, "there is no
need!

My soul is struggling from its gaol to flee—
It soars expectant of the promis'd meed—

It beats—it pants—it must—it will be free!"
More words he would have said ; but Heav'n
decreed

An instant change for immortality.

Yet his last wish Orlando knew full well,

"Guard and protect my sister Alda-belle!"

Now, when he knew the gallant spirit fled,

He seem'd on earth's wild coast alone to
stay ;

And sick at heart and sorrowful, he sped

To reach a hillock that adjoining lay,

And there he blew a blast, so shrill and dread,

That every Pagan trembled with dismay ;

Another, and another yet, he blew :

With the third blast his horn was split in
too.

C. 27. St. 63.

The third blast from Orlando's famous
horn was so violent, as not only to burst
the instrument, but to force blood through
the eyes and nostrils of the gallant knight.
The noise so alarmed the Pagan host, that
they began to fly in all directions; Or-
lando drew, for the last time, his Durin-
dana, and returned to the field, disconsolate
for the loss of his friend, and miser-
able and broken in spirit, "like one re-
turning from the funeral of one much
loved, to give comfort to the little afflict-
ed family."

Come chi torna dal funereo lutto,
Alla sua Famigliuola a dar conforto.

Here, however, he experienced little
consolation, and was unable to render
any. During the short period of his ab-
sence, Egibard, Avino, Avolio, Waker,
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and Richard of Normandy had perished ;
Rinaldo and Richardetto, still alive, were
at a distance engaged in the pursuit of
flying squadrons; the brave Archbishop
and Anselm, one of the most distinguish-
ed among the christian warriors, had
alone of all the band besides, hitherto es-
caped. But the latter, exhausted, and
worn out with wounds, and fatigued, was
unhorsed and slain by a Saracen prince,
just as Orlando returned to the ground.
That illustrious paladin, careless of life,
now rode like a madman into the thickest
ranks of the enemy, and took an ample
vengeance for the death of this last of his
friends. At length, tired and spent with
fatigue, wounded, and overcome with in-
tolerable thirst, seeing the Pagans flying
in all directions, the *vanquished victor* re-
treated to the borders of a fountain which
he had discovered the preceding day.

Oppress'd with wounds and toil, the valiant
knight

Could now support his helmet's weight no
more,

Tir'd by the labours of so hot a fight,

Parch'd by a burning thirst unfelt before :

He now remember'd where, the former night,
From a clear fount the chrystal stream he
bore.

Thither he urg'd his course ; there sought re-
pose,

And wash'd his wounds, and rested from his
woes.

His faithful steed that long had serv'd him
well

In war and peace, now clos'd his languid
eye,

Knelt at his feet, and seem'd to say, "Fare-
well!

"I've brought thee to the destin'd port, and
die."

Orlando felt anew his sorrows swell,

When he beheld his Vegliantino lie

Stretch'd on the field, the crystal fount be-
side,

Stiffen'd his limbs, and cold his warlike pride.

And "Oh, my much lov'd steed! my gene-
rous friend!

"Companion of my better years (he said);

And have I liv'd to see so sad an end

To all thy toils, and thy brave spirit fled?

Oh pardon me, if e'er I did offend

With hasty wrong that kind and faithful
head ;

Just then, his eyes a momentary light

Flash'd quick—then clos'd again in endless
night.

Now, when Orlando found himself alone,

Upon the plain he cast his languid eyes ;

But there no kindred forms, no friends well-
known,

Of all his host, to meet his sight arise.

4 U

With

With undistinguish'd dead the mountains
groan,

A heap of slaughter Roncesvalles lies.

Oh! what a pang of grief oppress'd his brain,
As his strain'd eye-balls rested on the slain!

And, "Oh!" he cried, "Ye gallant souls
thrice blest,

Whose woes are buried in that bloody
tomb!

For me, I know my fate, yet cannot rest,
Feel Death approaching, yet he will not
come—

How calm and peaceful is thy gentle breast,

My Oliver! how sweet Astolpho's doom!

Oh yet some human pity feel for me,
And aid my soul just struggling to be free!"

C. 27. St. 100.

An impulse of heroic vanity prompted
him to wish that no unworthy hand
might, after his death, grasp his sword
Durindana; he therefore struck it with
all his might on a hard rock to break it;
but the rock itself, instead, gave way to
the irresistible temper of the blade, and
the tremendous strength of his dying arm.
To this day travellers in the Pyrenees are
shewn the cloven rock and the split horn
of Roland.

Rinaldo, tired of the pursuit, came
back, with Richardetto and Archbishop
Turpin, just in time to receive the dying
words of his friend, who, having confessed
all the sins of his life to Turpin, and re-
ceived absolution, prayed fervently to
heaven for forgiveness, as he was a man,
and created with human frailties:

*E perdonasti à tutta la Natura,
Quando tu perdonasti al primo Padre!*

His prayer for himself, his friends, and
his country, ended with these words:

"Oh holy Saviour! I commend to thee
My Alda-belle, my dear, my widow'd
wife;

And, if she weds another lord than me,
Grant her a better choice, a happier life!
Oh guard my king in his declining years,
And these my fellow-soldiers, and my peers!"

Thus had he offer'd up his pious pray'r
With sighs, and tears, and breath'd his last
desire,

When o'er the dying knight, with sudden
glare,

Flash'd from the sun three beams of
heav'nly fire.

His friends stood round him, with dejected
air,

Like children at the death-bed of their
sire.

No words the dread and solemn silence
broke,

Save where deep groans the heart's sad lan-
guage spoke.

2

Soft music, mingled with that heav'nly light,
In sweet, low, murmurs, stole upon their
ears;

And, like some dying gale of balmy night,
A spirit seem'd descending from the spheres.
Orlando rais'd his intellectual sight,

When lo! before his ravish'd eye appears
He who from heav'n to our benighted earth
Bore the glad tidings of the Saviour's birth.
St. 130.

This celestial messenger cheer'd the
last moments of the departing hero with
the full assurance "of offence forgiven,"
of a re-union in heaven with the friends
who loved and bled for him on earth,
and with his chaste and widowed Alda-
belle.

Bright with eternal joy and deathless bloom,
Thy Alda-belle thou shalt behold once
more,

Partaker of a life beyond the tomb
With her whom Sinai's holy hills adore;
Crown'd with fresh flow'rs whose colours and
perfume

Exceed whatever spring's rich bosom bore:
On earth, thy mourning widow she'll re-
main,

And be, in heav'n, thy blessed spouse again!
St. 145.

The angel then having vanished, Or-
lando once more embraced his friends,
and mingled his tears with theirs. Then
he commended his soul to Heaven. Ri-
naldo felt the weakness of affection come
over him, and with a melancholy voice
exclaimed,

Dove mi lasci, oh Cugin mio, soletto?

But recollecting the words of the angel,
ceased his complaint, and remained silent
from awe and reverence, while Orlando
calmly surrendered himself to death.

With look seraphic, turn'd and fix'd on high,
He seem'd transfigur'd from this earthly
vest,

And holding sacred converse with the sky—
Oh happy end! oh soul supremely blest!

At last he hung his languid head to die,
And the freed spirit left his holy breast:
But, first, the pommel of his sword he laid
Fix'd to his heart, his arms across the blade.*

The sound of distant thunder shook the
skies,

Play'd round the hills, and in the vallies
died;

From snowy clouds bright starry meteors rise
And thro' the air celestial lustres glide,

* This is exactly according to the posture
of the marble Templars and Crusaders in our
cathedral churches.

And

And liquid flames, too fierce for human eyes;
To sweetest harps, harmonious notes replied,

Such notes as to the heav'n of heav'ns aspire,
Breath'd out, melodious, by th' angelic choir.

The knights, who silent saw their champion die,

Stood rapt in fervent trance upon the plain;
Lost to themselves, and rais'd to worlds on high,

They seem'd a glorious seat in heav'n to gain:

Till ceas'd the long and dulcet psalmody,
And loud and full Te Deums * clos'd the strain.

So stood the sage of old, and so ador'd,
When up to heav'n Elijah's chariot soar'd.

St. 153.

In the mean time, Charles, at his camp of Pied-du-port, heard the first blast of Orlando's horn, and, startled at the summons, was about to order his troops to march to his assistance: but the traitor Gano, who rejoiced inwardly at the work of death which he perceived had commenced, persuaded him that it was but a hunting-party among the mountains. At the third blast, however, the emperor knew that it was Orlando's horn, and that the sound was that of distress and danger. Suspicion of treachery at length possessed him too late, and he caused the wicked Maganzese to be put in irons, while he hastened, with his few remaining Paladins, to Roncesvalles. The sun stood still in the heavens for a day and a night, to allow his arrival at the fatal place without delay. He was met on the road by Terigi, who informed him of the sad catastrophe that had taken place; and soon after, from the surrounding heights, they beheld the field of Roncesvalles covered with ghastly heaps of dead and dying.

When Charles beheld that field of blood, he cast

His eyes tow'rs Roncesvalles; and exclaimed,

* The original has a beautiful thought which it is difficult to express in translation. The angels were known, it says, by the trembling of their wings.

Cantar

Sentitu fu degli angeli solenne,
Che si cognoble al tremolar le penne.

It is also much more particular in its account of the *celestial psalmody*. For instance, the "Te Deum" was not the only anthem performed. They also sung "In Exitu Israël."

"Because in thee the fame of France is past,
Through every age be thou with curses nam'd!

So long as this wide world, and time, shall last,

Be everlasting barrenness proclaim'd,
Thy lofty hills and spreading vales around,
And heav'n's own lightnings blast th'accursed ground!"

But when he reach'd the fatal mountain's base,

Where, at the fount, Rinaldo watch'd the dead,

More lamentable tears bedew'd his face;
The stiffen'd corse he kissed, embrac'd, and said,

"Oh blessed soul! look from the realms of grace

Upon this old and miserable head!

And, if all crimes are not forgotten there,
Oh pardon me for having brought thee here!

"Where is the faith, my son, I bade thee prove,

The pledge in happier days receiv'd and giv'n?

Oh shade ador'd! if ought of human love,
Or human pity may survive in heav'n,
Restore to me, from thy blest seat above,
As the sweet token of offence forgiv'n,
That sword with which I made thee knight and count,

Ev'n as thou erst didst swear at Aspramount!"

It was Heaven's will, that, at his sovereign's word,

Orlando's body rose from earth once more,
And knelt before his ancient king and lord,
With courtly reverence, as in days of yore;
Stretch'd forth his hand, and render'd back the sword,

(The same he held in Aspramount before)—

Then, with a smile, to heav'n the spirit fled;
The corpse fell back, and lay for ever dead.

O'er Charles's limbs a sudden tremour ran,
Something between a thrilling awe and love;
By his cold hand he grasp'd the dying man,
And felt assur'd of happier life above;
A holy horror every breast began

To seize; and ev'n Rinaldo's heart to prove
The pow'r of fear; while, humbly kneeling round,

They kiss'd with bended face the sacred ground. St. 201.

This truly romantic miracle was followed by another no less extraordinary. Charles prayed for power to distinguish, among the heaps of slain, the Christian from the Pagan dead; and on his return to the field he found that his prayer had been heard. The Pagans all lay flat on their faces; the Christians with their eyes turned upwards to heaven. On the latter

ter all the rites of sepulture were bestowed with all the honour of martyrs. Astolpho was sent to England, and Oliver to Burgundy, to be interred in their native countries; and the corpse of Orlando was conveyed to Aix-la-Chapelle, and there deposited with great pomp and reverence in the royal sepulchre. The remainder of the poem consists of the signal vengeance which was taken by Charles and Rinaldo for the massacre of Roncesvalles. Gano paid the forfeit of his many crimes by an ignominious and dreadful death; and Marsilius, after seeing his territories wasted, and his crown ravished from his brows, was hanged (by a just and extraordinary retribution) on the very carob-tree under which he had first plotted the destruction of Orlando. Rinaldo felt his ancient love for Luciana rekindled, and, by his espousals with her shortly after, became heir of the crown of Spain; but, unused to an inactive life, he quitted, in an advanced age, the peaceful residence of a court, and set out in quest of new adventures. It is believed that he sailed westward in search of the new hemisphere which had formerly been described to him by Astaroth; but no-

thing certain was ever heard of him afterward.

One more passage shall conclude our extracts from, and remarks upon, the present work. All France lamented her champions, and wore an universal mourning, when his body was entombed.

But more than all the beauteous Alda mourn'd
Her much-lov'd lord and brother on the bier;

"Ye happy souls, to kindred heav'n return'd,
Have left me, all alone and widow'd here,
Me, once the happiest wife on earth, adorn'd
With all that heav'n approves, and earth
holds dear;

Blest with the love of the most noble knight
That ever mounted steed, or dar'd the fight.

"Oh my lov'd father, brother, lord, farewell!

I never shall behold thy like again—
So form'd in camps and cities to excell,
So mild in peace, so dreadful on the plain!
Constant in life and death, thy Aldabelle
Swears, by those bones interr'd at Aquis-
grane,*

Those tender arms that once encircled thee,
Shall never to another wedded be!"

C. 27. St. 218.

* Aquisgrana, the antique, or romantic, appellation for Aix-la-Chapelle.

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